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Are you feeling more Scrooge than Santa?

If you're looking to escape the hassles of the holidays, then try these five Christmas-free destinations PAGE 31

PARTY ON, DUDES!

ABE LINCOLN AS POP-CULTURE ICON

PAGE 23

VANCOUVER metro®

Wednesday, November 7, 2012

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YES HE DID, AGAIN

U.S. President Barack Obama walks on stage with first lady Michelle Obama and daughters Sasha and Malia to deliver his victory speech on election night at McCormick Place in Chicago. Obama won re-election against Republican candidate and former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney. For more coverage, including local reaction, see pages 4 and 13. SCOTT OLSON/GETTY IMAGES

New drug law not popular with everyone

A B.C. MLA and former police chief says Bill C-10's mandatory sentencing for serious drug crimes will 'fog up our court system' PAGE 3

Newbie investors, take note

The stock market isn't such a scary place once you figure out some basics PAGE 20

Add some spice with your sugar

Cardamom enhances this cranberry-pear crisp PAGE 32

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Marijuana measure

Washington's legalization vote lights fire under B.C. bud campaign

Marijuana campaigner Dana Larsen says he is "ecstatic" that a grassroots Washington State ballot initiative to legalize recreational marijuana use passed Tuesday night.

Initiative measure No. 502 passed with more than 55 per cent approval.

The founder of the B.C. Marijuana Party is currently smoking a path through dozens of cities, trying to drum up support for a similar referendum in B.C.

"I think it will be huge for British Columbia," Larsen said. "I think it will inspire people to recognize that if they can do it in Washington State, then we can do it in Canada."

His campaign, Sensible BC, is pre-registering people to sign a petition next fall to get marijuana completely decriminalized in B.C., with the long-term goal of pressuring the federal government to legalize it.

Under the legal requirements for a referendum, the campaign will have 90 days to collect the signatures of 10 per cent of all registered voters in every riding in the province — a whopping total of 400,000.

Larsen says far from fearing the legal U.S. competition, the majority of illegal marijuana producers he knows in B.C. welcome the political shift south of the border. The province's marijuana industry is worth about $7 billion, but less B.C. bud has been moving south over the last decade due to the weak U.S. dollar and California's medical-marijuana industry, he says.

Larsen predicts the U.S. government will fight Washington voters' mandate to allow state-licensed cannabis stores, so it will be a while before Vancouver loses its edge as a pot tourism destination.

KATE WEBB/METRO

Medical marijuana products such as hash-weed brownies, snake oil, B.C. bud and lotion are seen at the Medical Cannabis Dispensary in Vancouver on Tuesday.
EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Tough new law irks MLA, pot supporters

C-10. Federal bill's mandatory sentencing for serious drug crimes came into effect Tuesday

EMILY JACKSON
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If you grow six marijuana plants, prepare to spend six months in the slammer.

Canada's drug-prohibition laws got tougher as a component of Bill C-10 came into effect Tuesday, legislation B.C. MLA and former police chief Kash Heed dubs "ridiculous" when it comes to marijuana. The bill imposes harsher penalties and mandatory jail time for drug offenders who participate in organized crime, sell drugs to or near youth, or produce drugs where there could be a safety hazard to youth or residents.

While the law doesn't impose mandatory penalties on simple possession, it includes jail time for production of six to 200 marijuana plants and increases maximum sentences to 14 years.

This will "fog up our court system" by putting people in jail for "such a ridiculous amount of marijuana," Heed said in an interview.

After 30 years in law enforcement, Heed is "dumbfounded" the government isn't taking a balanced approach that focuses on demand reduction as well as locking up gangsters.

"We will never arrest our way out of this particular problem," Heed said. "Marijuana prohibition has not worked in Canada for many years, and it will not work in Canada."

The Conservative government does not support legalization or decriminalization, federal Ministry of Justice spokeswoman Julie Di Mambro said in a statement. The bill targets criminals, she said.

"Criminal organizations that rely on the drug trade do not respect the current penalties — they simply see them as the cost of doing business," Di Mambro said.

The new sentencing laws won't necessarily change how Vancouver police enforce drug crimes, Const. Brian Montague says.

But Dana Larsen of the Medical Cannabis Dispensary says his organization could receive mandatory minimums for trafficking more than three kilograms of cannabis.

"We rely on the tolerance of our community," he said. "If I was elsewhere outside Vancouver, I'd be a little more nervous."

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1 The moment of truth

Elizabeth Stoiaken of Minnesota, left, and Mia White of Vermont react at a Democrats Abroad U.S.-election-watching party on Tuesday night as Barack Obama is announced the projected winner at Ceili's Irish Pub.

2 Mayor backs his man

Mayor Gregor Robertson cheers for Barack Obama at an election party at Phat deli in Yaletown.

ALL PHOTOS: JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

3 Showing his colours

Rick Havlak of Olympia waves the stars and stripes at Ceili's Irish Pub.

4 A cheer for four more years

Ginny Behl, right, and Jame Burnes Leverenz of Minnesota celebrate at Ceili's Irish Pub as Barack Obama is re-elected president of the United States.

Pub dishes out slice of American politics on election night

MATT KIELTYKA
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Vote. Vancouver's Democrats Abroad gather to support Barack Obama

It may bear an Irish name, but Ceili's Irish Pub in downtown Vancouver was all red, white and blue on election night.

Hundreds of faithful Barack Obama supporters, members and friends of the official Democrats Abroad local chapter, packed the bar and shook it to the rafters when the 44th president of the United States was re-elected to a second term before 8:30 p.m.

As MSNBC declared Obama the winner over Republican Mitt Romney, expats jumped to their feet and some even busted out a victory dance.

"Pure elation! We were all nervous this time around," said Joanne Salem, a Michigan native who's lived in Vancouver for 20 years. "We now have a great president for four more years. We can finally make some progress."

It was tough finding Romney supporters in the city.

David Katz, the membership secretary for Democrats Abroad Canada, says 7,000 people in the Vancouver area belong to the organization.

No such Republican alternative exists in B.C., he says.

"Tonight is a special night," said Katz, a dual citizen who admitted watching the election from Canada was a unique experience. "Being in Canada gives us a bird's-eye view of things. In the States, you can't see the forest for the trees. In the thick of it, there's a tremendous amount of political noise."

He referred to a friend who lives in battleground state Ohio. She received four to five calls a day from each of the federal parties desperate for her vote, and she was inundated with non-stop election-campaign ads.

"It's gets to be so much that people check out," said Katz. "I actually find that is one of the sad parts of American politics — there is a team mentality where people get caught up in their team winning, instead of thinking about the policies."

Kim Burkhardt worked on Obama's election campaign in 2008, when his charisma and promise of change turned him into a political icon.

Things weren't so easy this time around.

"In 2008 it was all about the enthusiasm for the candidate," she said. "This year, I suppose, was more about the issues. There's still support for Obama, but not the same kind of excitement."

But the dulled excitement didn't manifest itself in the moment of truth, when Obama was declared the winner and the pro-Democrat crowd at Ceili's exploded in cheers.

Elsewhere in the city, Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson was watching the results with his Vision Vancouver colleagues at Yaletown's Phat deli and bar.

Sporting an Obama 2012 button, the mayor didn't hide his admiration for the president.

The night also brought back memories of his own election campaigns.

"Watching any election results, you get a bit of butterflies," Robertson said. "It's like athletes watching other sports. I think (Obama) has done an admirable job these past four years, and I think he'll do even better in the next four."

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Can puppies melt a dragon's heart?

Palace for pooches. Owners of pet hotel will have their business pitch on Dragons' Den air next week

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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Two local entrepreneurs are hoping puppy power is enough to slay the dragons.

Cam and Marcus Dahl, who own Jet Pet Resort — a pet paradise located near the Vancouver International Airport — are heading into the Dragons' Den to pitch their business concept. The episode airs next Wednesday.

The pair is asking for $200,000 for 30 per cent of their business to expand into the Ontario market.

The 15,000-square-foot facility, which opened in September 2010 and can house 70 dogs and 20 cats, features themed rooms, an exercise room, a Kitty Wing, a day spa, beds furnished with hypo-allergenic sheepskin covers, as well as private TVs and video monitors that let owners stay in touch with their pampered pets.

"We're not a vet clinic. We're not a kennel, but we're the next level of pet care," said Cam Dahl Tuesday.

Rates begin at $37 per night for dog rates, while overnight cat boarding starts at $20.

Dahl said she was most nervous about what Kevin O'Leary — best known for being the most brutally honest and ruthless in the panel of business moguls — had to say.

"Let's just say he didn't say we're crazy, which he usually does to everyone else," she added.

And for those wondering if the pet-rock-star treatment may be a bit too much?

"To each their own," she said. "For the people who do have animals, they are their children, so they want to be able to give them all these things and give them the best. Whether people agree with that or not, there is a lot of people out there who choose to do it."

Quoted

"We're not a kennel, but we're the next level of pet care."

Cam Dahl, co-owner of Jet Pet Resort

An indoor exercise room and a central indoor courtyard play area are just some of the services included in Vancouver's Jet Pet Resort. RAEF GROHNE/JET PET RESORT

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Bomb scares rattle New Westminster, Tsawwassen

A suspicious package found in New Westminster Monday night turned out to be a false alarm in yet another security scare for SkyTrain passengers.

Investigators determined the object was a metal pipe, wrapped in electrical tape, with a wooden dowel inside, Transit Police spokesperson Anne Drennan said in a statement Tuesday morning.

New Westminster Station was closed for about 30 minutes after a man found the pipe and turned it over to an attendant at around 9:30 p.m. The RCMP bomb squad used a robot to remove the pipe safely.

Though they appreciated the report picking, up a suspicious item is not something police recommend, Drennan added.

"We encourage people to report anything remotely suspicious either to a Transit Police officer, a station attendant or Transit security, but we ask them to leave it where they find it and not pick it up and bring it in because that obviously could be a safety issue," she said. "But we're very pleased when the employees and the public are hypervigilant and very alert like this."

Hours earlier, the RCMP bomb squad detonated a suspicious package that had been left outside a Tsawwassen neighbourhood where around 20 households were evacuated, but later returned to their homes.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

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Salmon Arm. Two people charged in 2008 murder

Two people have been arrested and charged in the murder of 22-year-old Tyler Myers, who was found dead outside an elementary school in Salmon Arm nearly four years ago.

On Monday, a 20-year-old man and 21-year-old woman, both from Salmon Arm, were arrested. Both have been charged with first-degree murder.

The two cannot be identified under the Youth Criminal Justice Act because they were minors at the time of Myers' death.

Myers was found in the yard of Bastion Elementary School on Nov. 21, 2008.

Police say the three knew each other and allege the murder was not a random attack.

Case cracked

"These charges illustrate (the investigators') dedication, and hopefully will help Tyler's friends and family."

Insp. Gary Shinkaruk

"Each of our investigators believes that murder victims deserve to have their case solved, no matter how long the file takes," said Insp. Gary Shinkaruk, from the E Division major crime unit.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Women in 60s or 70s

RCMP search to ID accident victim

Kelowna RCMP hope someone will recognize a distinctive purple coat and come forward to identify an accident victim with critical injuries. The woman was hit by a small tour bus.

CKQQ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MP hopefuls

Victoria gears up for byelection

As U.S. voters elected their president, voters in Victoria are gearing up for a by-election to replace their member of parliament. Six people will seek the seat on November 26th.

CFAX/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mayor Gregor Robertson to ask feds for transit money

Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson speaks to real-estate-industry representatives at the Urban Land Institute speaker series lunch on Tuesday. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Vancouver in 38 years. Robertson outlines ambitious plans for city's future

EMILY JACKSON
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Picture a Vancouver full of transit, tech jobs, affordable housing and green living — that's how Mayor Gregor Robertson sees the city in 38 years.

But first, the city needs to secure transit funding.

Robertson spouted these familiar messages to hundreds of real-estate-industry professionals at an Urban Land Institute lunch Tuesday, potentially the very developers building mega-projects that could line the city's coffers.

"We cannot control everything that affects our future, but certainly we can talk about and decide what kind of city we want and what kind of action steps we take to get there," Robertson said.

The mayor's immediate priorities are underground rapid transit along the Broadway corridor and building walkable neighbourhoods, he told reporters after his speech.

One of his first steps will be to ask for federal funding for desperately needed transit in major cities on behalf of big-city mayors in Ottawa next week, he said.

Broadway transit is "crucial" to Vancouver, he said, and could be funded with road tolls — no particular roads have been chosen — and carbon taxes, not property taxes.

Without the province's approval, these funding mechanisms can't be put in place. It will be an election issue if the legislature doesn't approve these options by February 2013, Robertson said.

When construction finally begins, the city will look at compensating businesses that could be affected by the project to avoid the "mess" that Cambie Street merchants experienced during the Canada Line's construction, he added.

Seattle's $2-billion transit expansion paid about $25 million to affected parties, he said.

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HIV/AIDS diplomat slams Harper on drugs

Antiretroviral. Vancouver health workers join chorus of contempt for PM's stance on exporting generic drugs

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

As Prime Minister Stephen Harper toured India Tuesday, internationally renowned HIV/AIDS diplomat Stephen Lewis conjured a chorus of contempt from hundreds of health workers in Vancouver for the PM's stance on exporting generic drugs.

Lewis fought for eight years alongside Liberal, NDP, Bloc Québécois and even some Conservative MPs for a bill that would allow Canada to produce generic, lifesaving antiretroviral drugs at low cost for export to countries hardest hit by the pandemic.

Bill C-393 passed in the House of Commons in 2011, but died after being stalled for too long by the Conservative-controlled senate.

The former UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa and chair of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, which helps families treat and cope with the disease, said the worst part is that the drugs in question were designed for children.

Without treatment, 80 per cent of the 330,000 children born HIV-positive every year will die before the age of five.

Quoted

"It's like some macabre atrocity visited on kids."

HIV/AIDS diplomat Stephen Lewis, on Canada's inaction with drugs designed for children in Africa to cope with the disease

Stephen Lewis, former UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, was in Vancouver Tuesday. KATE WEBB/METRO

B.C.'s northwest. Second person dies after four-vehicle accident

A second person has died following a four-vehicle crash on Highway 16 west of Prince George on Monday.

Police say a female occupant of a Jeep Cherokee died of her injuries while undergoing treatment at Vancouver General Hospital, and a second female occupant of the same vehicle remains in stable condition.

A male driver of a Toyota Tercel and a resident of Fraser Lake was pronounced dead at the scene following the crash near the Beaumont Provincial Park turnoff.

The RCMP say the accident took place when the driver of the Jeep crossed the highway's centre line and collided with the Toyota. While the police have not yet identified the victims, they say the two female occupants of the Jeep were mother and daughter and lived in Prince George.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'It Gets Better.' RCMP gay, lesbian officers featured on video aimed at youth

Const. Cheryl Letkeman still remembers the cruel slurs she faced growing up gay in Maple Ridge and the fear she experienced before coming out to her parents.

"It's usually not the greatest time of anyone's life," Letkeman says in a video released this week featuring RCMP members participating in the "It Gets Better" campaign.

Letkeman, 42, who's been a police officer for nearly six years, is among 20 officers and civilian members of the RCMP to appear in the nine-minute video, each recalling their own coming-out stories.

"I think it's incredibly important for the youth to have positive role models to look up to when they feel like things aren't going to get any better." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drug smuggling

Teens swallow 300 pills before flight

The Canada Border Services Agency says a pair of teenagers planning to board a flight out of Vancouver had swallowed more than 300 pellets of drugs in a smuggling attempt Sunday.

Border-services officers found inconsistencies in answers from the teens and thought they might be what the agency calls "internal narcotics carriers." Health officials decided the pellets were deteriorating and both teenagers needed emergency surgery to remove the drug, which is believed to be methamphetamine. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Contract demands

SFU, VCC behind pickets Wednesday

Two major post-secondary institutions in metro Vancouver will be behind pickets lines tomorrow as support staff walk off the job to press contract demands.

Members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees are staging strike action at Simon Fraser University campuses in Burnaby and Vancouver, and also walking out at Vancouver Community College. CUPE says the one-thousand support staff at SFU and the 420 workers at VCC have been without a contract since 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scientists say man-made climate change is at least partly to blame for the glacial-retreat scene on Mount Baker over the past 100 years. The photo on the left was taken in 1912, while the one on the right was taken in September. LEFT: MIL DERIXON WELSH/COURTESY U.S. FORESTRY SERVICE; RIGHT: COURTESY OF JOHN SCURLOCK

Mount Baker photos show startling glacial recession

Climate change. Ice on east side of Mount Baker has receded over 100 years, photos show

KATE WEBB
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Washington researchers have published a then-and-now, side-by-side photo comparison showing how glaciation on the east side of Mount Baker has receded by roughly two kilometres over the last century.

Dave Tucker, a geology research associate with Western Washington University who studies Mount Baker, explained that several years ago a well-known local photographer came across an archival photo taken in 1912, and decided to shoot a centennial reproduction.

Tucker said the photo from 1912 was taken at the very end of the Little Ice Age, a period of global cooling that began around the 1400s and lasted until the 1800s.

"Certainly the glacial recession is due to climate change, but what proportion of that is human-caused, we really can't quantify that," he said.

"Glaciers are indeed getting smaller; in fact, they are getting markedly smaller. They may be receding without any help from us, but if we want to reduce the rate of disappearance of glaciers on mountains then we need to deal with our impact on the atmosphere and the warming climate."

The photographer who took the second photo on Sept. 16, John Scurlock, used a sepia wash similar to the one in the original photo to create the most similar visual comparison possible.

Poster for sale

The Mount Baker Volcano Research Centre in Bellingham is taking orders for a 20-inch-by-20-inch poster of the two images, Mount Baker — 100 Years of Change, with proceeds going to the centre's research-grant fund.

The poster can be ordered for $30 US, or $55 with styrene backing. International shipping is not available, so Canadians must pick orders up in Bellingham. To place an order, email research@mcvrc.wwu.edu.

No. 1 ... or 2. Victoria outhouse voted best restroom in Canada

It's basically a spruced-up downtown outhouse, but Victoria's so-called Langley Street Loo is now known as Canada's best restroom.

A nationwide contest saw Victoria's outdoor public restroom top four other — much appreciated — washrooms in Vancouver, Toronto, and Repentigny, Que., for biffy supremacy.

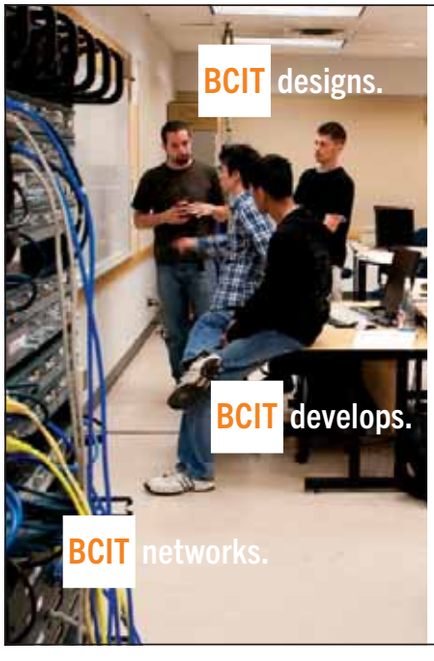
Victoria Mayor Dean Fortin said Tuesday he couldn't resist engaging in a bit of toilet humour to mark the occasion as he accepted the award-winning plaque during a ceremony at the restroom.

"If you'll pardon the pun, as mayor, representing mayor and council, we are all flushed with excitement to receive this award," he said. "It's nice to be No. 1, or No. 2 — or both."

Fortin said the Langley Street Loo, Victoria's second outdoor public restroom, is part of the city's strategy to keep the downtown flowing with tourists and young people.

Cintas' Canada Ltd., a company that provides restroom supplies, among other services, started the best restroom in Canada contest in 2010.

Cintas' spokesman Rod Farquharson said the Victoria Loo isn't known for being lavish, but the stainless-steel unisex toilet provides an eco-friendly, convenient and free service that appealed to the most voters. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Rights advocates call for arrest footage in brain damage case

No charges laid.
Groups question credibility of report explaining how suspect was injured in clash with RCMP

Rights advocates say the release of a five-page report from the Crown isn't enough to explain how a First Nations man from Terrace, B.C., emerged with severe brain damage from a confrontation with RCMP.

The B.C. Civil Liberties Association and the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs are questioning the credibility of the report released by the Criminal Justice Branch last week, which explains why no charges were laid against the officers involved.

Robert Wright was arrested for suspected drunk driving in April and while in custody hit his head twice. He was taken to hospital three times and then airlifted to another hospital for emergency brain surgery.

The 47-year-old came out of the ordeal with irreparable brain damage that requires constant care by his wife.

"The video and audio tape in this case must be released," said Grand Chief Stewart Phillip in a release issued Tuesday.

In one instance, the detailed Crown report states the man was kneeling on a bench with his hands cuffed behind his back, when he abruptly tried to stand — prompting an officer to take him to the ground. He struck his head against either the floor, concrete bench or toilet.

"What possible scenario could the videotape capture that justifies this use of force against a restrained man?" Phillip asked.

A six-month investigation by another police force recommended an assault charge against an officer in early October, but only weeks later the Crown ruled out any charge.

The report states the use of force was reasonable and the brain damage was not likely the result of hitting his head, but instead may have been medical.

Both groups are now calling for the entire file to be released for their review, arguing the testimony relied on by the Crown was made by secret experts behind closed doors. The names of the experts are not included in the report.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recommendations

- In B.C., Crown lawyers assess charge recommendations to determine whether there is a substantial likelihood of conviction.
- In the case of the officer involved with Wright, the Crown felt the evidence did not meet that threshold.

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Downfall. Out-of-line comments about rape knock out candidates

JESSICA SMITH
jessica.smith@metronews.ca

Some controversial comments about rape didn't pay off for two Republican Senate candidates.

Both Missouri Republican Todd Akin and Indiana Republican Richard Mourdock failed in their Senate races on Tuesday.

Akin was considered a strong candidate until a controversial interview in August in which he said that women's bodies have ways of avoiding pregnancy in instances of "legitimate rape."

"The female body has ways to try to shut that whole thing down," Akin said at the time.

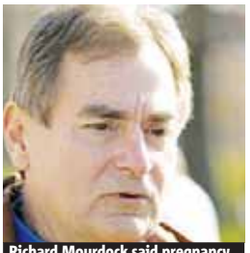
Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill, who supports abortion rights, was re-elected.

After Akin's controversial comments, Republican leaders, including Mitt Romney, called on him to abandon the race, but he refused.

In Indiana, Democrat Joe Donnelly defeated Republican Richard Mourdock, who had slipped in the polls after saying during a debate that when a woman who is raped becomes pregnant it's what "God intended."

"I, too, certainly stand for life," Mourdock said in the October debate.

"I know that there are some who disagree, and I respect their point of view, but I believe that life begins at conception. The only exception I have to have an abortion is in that case of the life of the mother.


Richard Mourdock said pregnancy after rape is what God intended. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

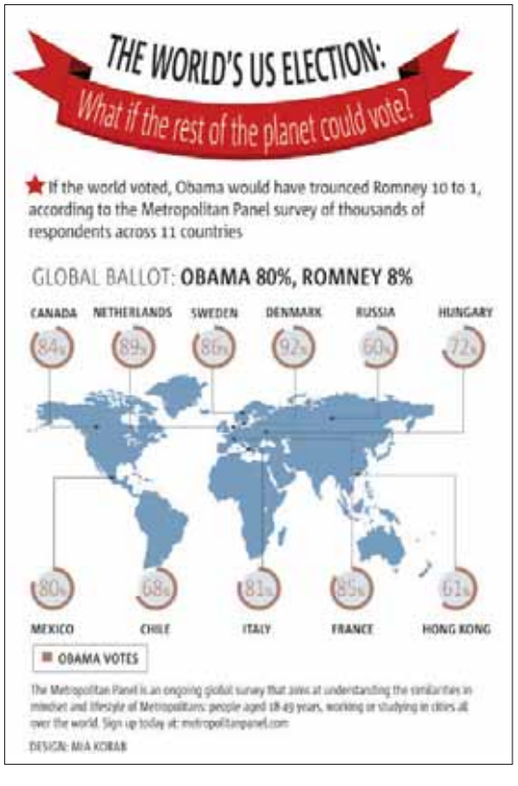
"I struggled with it myself for a long time but I came to realize that life is a gift from God, and I think that even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape that it is something God intended to happen."

The Indiana seat had been held for six six-year terms by Sen. Richard Lugar, whom Mourdock defeated in the primary. Donnelly's win handed it to the Democratic Party.

WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Exclusively online

Race for the White House: For the latest updates, online reaction and more, go to metronews.ca.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DESIGN: MIA KORAB

Obama supporters Shauna Harry, left, and Alana Hearn celebrate in New York after the election victory. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama does it!

Race for the White House. The lead switches agonisingly all night but U.S. president finally triumphs in historic election

Quoted

"I feel like we put it all on the field. We left nothing in the locker room. We fought to the very end."

Mitt Romney,
speaking to reporters on his plane as he flew to Boston on Tuesday.

He'll finish what he started.

President Barack Obama, who sought four more years to get the job done, won the White House in a gut-wrenching, intensely tight battle Tuesday night.

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Voters chose him as the man who'll best fix the nation's troubled financial state and its high unemployment.

In one of the hardest-fought campaigns in recent history, challenger Mitt Romney, the 65-year-old former Massachusetts governor, battled until the bitter end,

Victory was declared after several gut-wrenching hours that saw Obama and Romney spend election night much as they did the presidential campaign — in a neck-and-neck, topsy-turvy horse race.

"This happened because of you," Obama tweeted as supporters in Chicago and around the world erupted in jubilation at the news. "Thank you."

The two rivals were close in the popular vote. Romney had 45.2 million votes, or 49 per cent. Obama had 45 million, also 49 per cent, with 65 per cent of precincts tallied.

But Obama's focus on battleground states gave him the majority in the electoral vote, where it mattered most.

At press time, he had 303, or 33 more than needed for victory. Romney had 206.

All night the lead kept switching back and forth.

Obama won the reliably Democratic Northeast, and Romney secured his conservative base.

But the critical battlegrounds with the key to victory were unsettled late into the night — Virginia, Ohio and Florida among them — and, astonishingly, some voters were still waiting in long lines late Tuesday.

The high turnout of African-American voters in Pennsylvania — reportedly even higher than it was in 2008 — was thought to have played a critical role.

In Chicago, Obama's supporters were overjoyed.

The president was on his way, along with his wife, Michelle, to address the crowd at his downtown headquarters in the Windy City.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Glitches couldn't block democracy's path

It wasn't exactly mayhem, But sporadic problems were reported at polling places around the United States.

A confrontation broke out in Pennsylvania involving Republican inspectors over access to some polls.

Also in Pennsylvania, a voting machine lit up for Mitt Romney even when a voter pressed the button for President Barack Obama.

Video of what an official called a "momentary glitch" was widely viewed on YouTube.

One Florida elections office mistakenly told voters in robocalls that the election was on Wednesday.

In Philadelphia, a judge ordered a mural of Obama covered up after a Republican election worker snapped a picture of it at a school polling place.

There were reported problems with ballot scanners in the Ohio cities of Cleveland, Dayton and Toledo.

Polling places opened late in minority neighbourhoods in Galveston, Texas.

Voters in several storm-ravaged areas in New York and New Jersey expressed relief at being able to vote at all, considering the devastation from Superstorm Sandy.

"Nothing is more important than voting. What is the connection between voting and this?" said Alex Shamis, a resident of hard-hit Staten Island, pointing to his mud-filled home.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Gunmen assassinate brother of leading Syrian politician

Risk of 'Somalization'. UN-Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi says crisis could lead to fall of the state, rise of war lords and militias

Gunmen killed the brother of Syria's parliament speaker in a hail of bullets as he drove to work in Damascus on Tuesday, the state news agency said.

Mohammed Osama Laham, the brother of Parliament Speaker Jihad Laham, became the latest victim of a wave of assassinations targeting Syrian officials, army officers and other prominent supporters of President Bashar Assad's regime. The killing came a day after some of the most intense fighting in Damascus in months as rebels wage a civil war to unseat Assad.

Syrians push a burned car after a blast in the Mazzeh al-Jabal district of Damascus on Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The government and activists said a series of explosions Tuesday evening rocked the northwestern edge of Damascus. At least 13 people were killed and 30 wounded. Activists said the bombs were placed in a main square near housing for the country's elite troops from the Republican Guards, which is led by Assad's brother Maher, who is in charge of protecting the capital.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister David Cameron suggested Tuesday that Assad could be allowed safe passage out of the country if that option would guarantee an end to the nation's civil war.

The Turkish state news agency reported that seven Syrian generals defected to Turkey, joining dozens of other generals who have abandoned the regime.

In Jordan, visiting Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov met with Riad Hijab, the former Syrian prime minister who defected to Jordan in August. It was a rare, high-level contact between Moscow and a Syrian opposition figure. Lavrov said his talks with Hijab were meant to get first-hand information from the Syrian opposition on how they view a solution to the civil war. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spanish court defends same-sex marriage

Ricardo, 42, right, and Edorta, 36, a gay couple who were married Aug. 4, pose in their house, in Burlada, northern Spain, Tuesday. Spain's Constitutional Court upheld the legality of the country's gay-marriage law on Tuesday, rejecting an appeal contending that marriage in the Spanish constitution means only the union of a man and woman. ALVARO BARRIENTOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Workplace shooting

At least 3 dead at California chicken-processing plant

A parolee who worked at a California chicken-processing plant pulled a gun and opened fire at the business on Tuesday, killing two people and wounding two others, before taking his own life, authorities said.

Police said they didn't know what prompted the attack by Lawrence Jones, 42, midway through his shift at Apple Valley Farms, although other workers told police he did not appear to be himself when he arrived at the plant for work.

"It is difficult to say at this point if in fact there was a specific target that Jones was looking for," police Chief Jerry Dyer said.

Jones has an extensive criminal history dating back into the 1990s, Dyer said.

Jones arrived at work just before 5 a.m. About 3.5 hours into his shift, he pulled out a handgun and began firing, Dyer said.

Officers found Jones with a gunshot wound to the head and a 32-year-old woman bleeding from a wound to her lower back outside. Three other people were found shot inside. One was pronounced dead at the scene. Jones and another victim were pronounced dead later. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Western U. Researchers 'very happy' with HIV/AIDS vaccine progress

Dr. Chil-Yong Kang is one step closer to eradicating HIV/AIDS.

After a successful first trial of a preventive HIV/AIDS vaccine, researchers are predicting there could be a vaccine available in five years — provided phases 2 and 3 are successful.

"Today, I am very happy to announce there were no adverse effects observed during the preliminary Phase 1 clinical trials," Kang said at a Western University news conference Tuesday.

Developed by Kang and his team at Western, and supported by Sumagen Canada, the vaccine entered Phase 1 testing in the United States earlier this year. During this phase, the vaccine was administered to 24 HIV/AIDS-positive patients who were monitored for any side effects.

"These tests prove the safety and efficacy of the vaccine," said Dr. Dong Joon Kim, vice-chairman of Sumagen Canada.

MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO IN LONDON

Zoo escape

Gaza police catch rogue crocodile

It took an Internet search, shark nets and two weeks of floating in a sewage pond, but Gaza policemen said Tuesday that they have finally captured a crocodile that was terrifying residents.

The 1.75-metre crocodile fled his zoo enclosure two years ago and crawled to a large sewage pit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fair punishment?

Sidewalk driver to wear idiot sign

Shena Hardin, 32, who was caught on camera driving on a sidewalk to avoid a Cleveland school bus that was unloading children, will have to stand at an intersection wearing a sign warning about idiots. She will have to wear a sign saying: "Only an idiot drives on the sidewalk to avoid a school bus."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indian government warns Harper of Sikh extremism

Urging vigilance. Prime ministers talk terrorism, nuclear energy during stop on six-day trade trip

The Indian government issued a pointed and public warning to Prime Minister Stephen Harper to mind what they see as alarming evidence of Sikh extremism on Canadian soil.

Harper is usually the one to urge vigilance over extremism and terrorism as he travels the world meeting with his counterparts, but on Tuesday the shoe was on the other foot during a meeting in India's capital with India's minister of state for external affairs Preneet Kaur.

"Prime minister, there was another area of great concern for us, which was the revival of anti-India rhetoric in Canada, and I am from the state of Punjab, which we are very happy you will be visiting," Kaur said during a morning meeting.

"We have after very hard times got a good situation of peace and progress back in Punjab and in India and we would like that to continue.... We do appreciate very much that you have been forthright and open about your stand on this."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh take part in a ceremony in New Delhi on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh touched on the issue again during an evening ceremony.

"India and Canada are nations built on shared values that celebrate democracy, inclusiveness and diversity," said Singh. "We have similar concerns in combating terrorism, extremism and radicalism."

The issue of internal extremism has been one that has shaken India to the core over the past several decades — former prime minister Indira Gandhi was murdered by her own Sikh bodyguards after a string of events sparked by fundamentalists seeking their own separate, fundamentalist nation they would call Khalistan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Uranium shipments

Nations ink nuclear energy deal

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his Indian counterpart Manmohan Singh announced Tuesday they have finally sealed a nuclear deal that will see Canadian companies ship uranium to the energy-hungry South Asian nation.

A nuclear co-operation agreement had been signed two years ago between the two nations, but its actual implementation had been stalled over the details.

Canada had wanted more oversight over where the products wound up, something India had resisted. Now, a joint committee will ensure that Canada gets the kind of follow-up it had required.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bolivia returns mummified toddler to Peru

Second recovered.
Another mummy returned to Peru by Germany last year had been removed from the country in the 1980s

This undated photo shows a mummified toddler seized from antiquities traffickers.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The mummified toddler seized from antiquities traffickers is at least 700 years old and sits, spine curved forward, only about a foot tall.

It was welcomed back to Peru on Tuesday as a sort of celebrity, a symbol of the nation's effort to protect its cultural heritage.

"This small package," Culture Minister Luis Peirano told reporters, "is just a sample of the sacking, of the violation of our patrimony and all our inheritance."

Police in neighbouring Bolivia seized it two years ago as a Bolivian citizen tried to ship it to an address in Compiegne, France, in a cardboard box.

Bolivia's culture minister, Pablo Groux, formally handed it over to Peru at a news conference on Tuesday. It was wrapped in white linen because of its precarious condition, with underlying cloth made of cotton and wool from some sort of cameloid, which include llamas and alpacas.

Only two of the five pieces of cloth in which it was wrapped are original, and its left leg belonged to another child.

"To raise its commercial value, they added the other material and the leg," said Blanca Alva, the Peruvian Culture Ministry official in charge of protecting the country's patrimony.

The mummy's sex is uncertain. Archaeologists believe it comes from a pre-Inca culture of coastal Peru and is of a child of about two years.

Peru, the seat of the Incas, was also home to dozens of pre-Inca cultures and its archaeological relics are constantly plundered, including ceramics, silver and gold craftwork, pre-Columbian textiles and colonial paintings.

Trafficking in mummies is much less common, though "lately, there has been an increase in this, the trafficking of human remains," said Alva.

The former director of Peru's National Institute of Culture, Cecilia Bakula, said that not until 2009 did Peru include skeletal remains and mummies in its "red list" of endangered goods whose export is restricted.

The mummy returned Tuesday was the second that Peru has recovered. Another was returned by Germany last year, said Alva. It had been removed from the country in the 1980s, she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Public health

Officials plotting polio endgame

Public-health officials plotting the strategy behind the effort to rid the world of polio are seeking approval for fundamental changes to the blueprint for the way the eradication program will eventually come to a stop.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is asking for endorsement of changes it wants to make to the polio endgame, the tricky manoeuvring that will be needed to safely stop vaccinating against polio once it appears the viruses are no longer spreading and causing disease.

The initiative hopes the proposed options will speed up the end of polio transmission and make the final moves safer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Autopsy

2-year-old bled to death from zoo wild-dog mauling

The medical examiner's office says a two-year-old boy who died in a U.S. zoo's African wild-dog exhibit bled to death after he was mauled Sunday.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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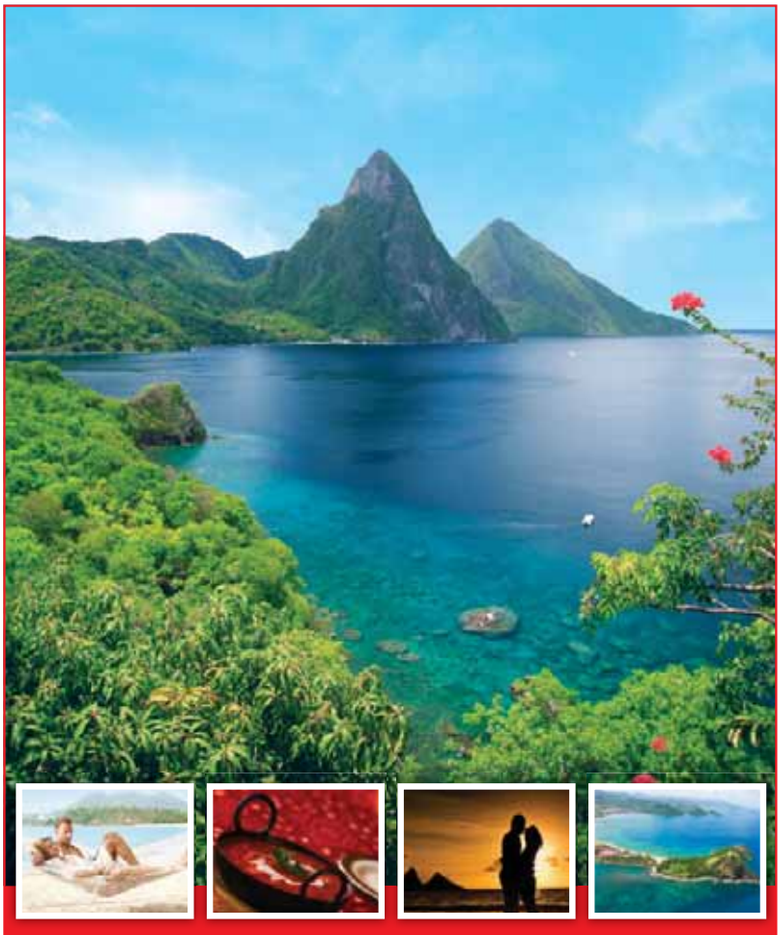
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Market Minute

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(+0.5¢)

TSX
12,361.20 (+8.42)

OIL
$88.71 US (+$3.06)

GOLD
$1,715 US (+$31.80)

Natural gas: $3.61 US (+6¢)
Dow Jones: 13,245.68 (+133.24)

Credit monitoring

Unpaid consumer debts fall sharply

Equifax Canada says delinquencies on consumer debt fell to pre-recession levels during the summer, even though the amount of money owed kept rising. The credit-monitoring firm says only 1.22 per cent of debts were unpaid after 90 days or more in the July-September quarter, down sharply from 1.37 per cent in the previous quarter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada Post

New community mailboxes could cost home buyers

Buyers of new homes may have an additional fee to contend with next year. Canada Post will begin charging developers $200 per home address to install community mailboxes in new residential neighbourhoods and commercial areas. Developers will likely pass off the expense to buyers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Not so scary after all: Why rookies shouldn't fear stocks

Investing. This is the first of three columns on getting into the stock market

IN THE MARKET
Bryan Borzykowski
For Metro

If you're hoarding cash rather than investing it, you're losing money, says columnist Bryan Borzykowski. In the first of a three-part series, he aims to convince investing newbies that equities aren't so frightening. ISTOCK

For most of the last century, investing in the stock market has been a great way to make money. That's because share prices have mostly gone up.

Of course, someone who lost their retirement savings during the recession doesn't want to hear that. While the markets have mostly recovered since the economic crisis, many people still want nothing to do with equities.

These days, most people are keeping their money in bonds, high-interest savings accounts or under a mattress, which is precisely where you don't want your cash to be. Investments must grow faster than inflation or you end up losing money. Right now, inflation is around two per cent, while a 10-year Government of Canada bond is paying 1.8 per cent. You get nothing for storing your money on a shelf at home.

Despite what you saw in the crisis, the stock market isn't a scary place. There are plenty of low-risk places for conservative investors to stash some dough, such as in brand name, dividend-paying stocks. While it's true that equities will always be riskier than bonds, in today's low-interest rate environment, barely paying fixed-income has become risky too.

The beauty of the stock market is anyone can buy in, even if you only have $20 a month to save. Banks will take just about anyone at any income level; some larger firms require a $500,000 investment or more before they'll take a client on. While you can get access to different investment options — such as real estate or hedge funds — if you have more money, the point is that you don't need to be rich to invest.

You also don't need to know much about the markets. Investing newbies can purchase mutual funds — securities that hold a basket of stocks — through an adviser. Savvier investors may buy stocks online. The earlier you start the better, though. The longer your funds are left to grow the more money you'll make.

The only people who should stay away from the markets are those who can't stomach any risk at all. Even the most conservative equity investor will see their portfolios fall from time to time. If you can't fathom seeing a negative number, then maybe the mattress is right for you.

Next in the series

- **In Metro Thursday:** How to size up your options when choosing stocks. Hint: Everybody's gotta eat.
- **In Metro Friday:** Should you go it alone or go to an adviser? Plus, some online tools for the DIY types.
- **Can't wait?** Check out the whole package online now, at metronews.ca/tag/investing.

Bryan Borzykowski is a Toronto-based financial writer and the author of Building Wealth All-in-One for Canadians for Dummies. Contact him at bryanborzykowski.com or follow him on Twitter @bborzyko.

Role models

Investors to watch

Warren Buffett
The Oracle of Omaha got rich by buying underappreciated companies. It's called value investing. You buy a business that no one wants, which makes it cheap. When people eventually buy in, the stock price soars.

Peter Lynch
This famous investor perfected the Growth at a Reasonable Price approach. He wants undervalued companies that are also growing earnings. Find a value stock that's growing and you've got yourself a winner.

Prem Watsa
The CEO of Toronto's Fairfax Financial has been called the Canadian Warren Buffet. He's also made his millions buying undervalued companies. Like any good investor, he's focused on long-term returns, not short-term gains.

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Lack of transparency kills budget watchdog report

Federal standoff.
Kevin Page says he will have an opinion this month on whether he can sue Ottawa for needed information

Kevin Page, Canada's parliamentary budget officer, seen here in Ottawa in April, says lack of co-operation from the Harper government is preventing him from providing a mid-year analysis of the country's finances.
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's budget watchdog will not issue a mid-year report on the Harper government's finances, citing lack of co-operation from the vast majority of departments.

Parliamentary Budget Officer Kevin Page posted a partial analysis on the government's $5.2-billion spending cuts plan Tuesday, but said a complete report that would be useful to parliamentarians is impossible because he just hasn't been given enough information.

He is seeking legal advice on whether he can sue Ottawa for the information, saying he will have an opinion this month.

"We're just saying show us the plan. This is not just a PBO issue, Parliament needs to see this and if they do see it and start to scrutinize these plans, the chance of hitting objectives goes up," he said. "But to say 'We are not giving you the plan' totally undermines Parliament."

Page said he has been begging departments and other governmental organizations to report to his office their plans for personnel cuts and their impact on programs and services for seven months, but in many cases has received only a perfunctory response.

The PBO has received responses about budget cutbacks from 91 per cent of government departments, but most have supplied inadequate information, he said.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"But to say 'We are not giving you the plan' totally undermines Parliament."
Parliamentary Budget Officer Kevin Page

Kytephone

Canadian app gets high-profile competition

Last week, Microsoft unveiled its new mobile operating system Windows Phone 8 and a feature called Kids Corner, which must sound like a godsend to parents who let their little ones play with their smartphone.

It allows parents to enable a child-friendly interface that hides apps and phone features that rambunctious tots could cause trouble with.

Kids Corner sounds remarkably similar to the brainchild of Toronto-based Martin Drashkov and Renat Gataullin, co-founders of Kytephone, an app for Google's Android phones and tablets.

Not that they mind. Given that Kids Corner is exclusive to Windows phones — which still represent a very small part of the mobile market — they don't consider it direct competition. Plus, the headlines for Kids Corner probably helped generate a little extra buzz for Kytephone, which has only been out for a few months.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Auto industry

'Business as usual' for Suzuki Canada

It remains "business as usual" for Suzuki in Canada despite a decision by its counterpart in the U.S. to discontinue auto sales and seek court protection from its creditors while it focuses on other products.

"Suzuki Canada has no current plans to discontinue automobile sales in Canada, nor are we contemplating any form of court-supervised restructuring as they have done in the United States," said a spokesman.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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FACT: NICE GUYS FINISH FIRST

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

There's hope for me yet.

Not just me, but millions of Guys.

Guys: You know who you are. You are impervious to all the recent trends toward humanization. Sensitive New Age Guy? Metrosexual? Fuggedaboutit. Emotions are like kryptonite or cockroaches. They need to be removed from the room to make it safe for football, video games, hot wings and the other essentials of Guy life.

Well, turns out that getting in touch with our feelings is not only trendy, it's also good for us.

Huh? (The universally recognized Guy response to any complex thought.)

A Harvard study that's been going on since 1938 has found that relationships (eeyeww), not genes or birth order or political affiliation, are the best indicator of how well men will do throughout their lives. The Grant Study, as it's known (who heads up Grant's study?) has followed 268 Harvard students through their entire lives.

Emotional long haul

Here's the bottom line, Guys. Of those participants who have the capacity for intimate relationships, one third are still alive. Of those who don't? Four miserable SOBs.

Here's the bottom line, Guys. Of those participants who have the capacity for intimate relationships, one third are still alive. Of those who don't? Four miserable SOBs.

Around our place, it's generally assumed I'll be the last crotchety old coot standing while my dutiful offspring are drawing straws to see who gets to put up with me after the authorities have washed their hands. But if this Grant Study is any indication, they'll have nothing to worry about. I'll die young (well, youngish), the tragic victim of emotional constipation. Like the end of a Clint Eastwood movie.

But wait! It doesn't have to be that way. The researchers have documented what should be called the Ebenezer Scrooge Effect. Somewhere along the line, a few lucky Guys discover their emotions and become interesting.

The New York Times' story on the study features a Guy who worked night shifts to put himself through school, then biked to class first thing in the morning. He probably had to plow his way through seven-foot snowdrifts, too, like the rest of us Guys. By the time he was 40, he was a burnout: "Mediocre and without imagination." Then, in his old age, he went back to his first love, theatre, got married at 78, and, by the time he was 86, got down to a single medication: Viagra. He died at 96 from having too much fun.

The title of the research is called Triumphs of Experience.

What doesn't kill you can make you glad to be here. And ready for someone who wants to share your secret and doesn't care if you start to cry during the part where Clint finally sees the light. Just before he takes the bullet meant for …

Clint Eastwood arrives at the Trouble with the Curve premiere in September. It's a film about an aging baseball scout who takes his daughter on one last recruiting trip. So there's still hope for all you Guys. GETTY IMAGES

VIP rhinos get their own bodyguards

ANN AND STEVE TOON/SOLENT NEWS

Sought-after horns

Protection from poachers

Rhinos Najin and Suni are pictured grazing under 24-hour protection as part of a conservation program in Kenya.

The northern white rhino species is extinct in the wild, with just seven remaining under protection due to poaching gangs. Rhino horns are in high demand because of the mistaken belief that they cure fevers and other illnesses. METRO

Rhino ambassadors

"It's impossible to say what proportion of poached rhinos is left alive and wounded."

Ann and Steve Toon, wildlife photographers and Save the Rhino activists

The British couple took the picture above on a tour of rhino-conservation projects in Africa, while also documenting the slaughter of the animals.

Also killed for parts:

- **Sumatran tiger.** Famous striped fur coats are an expensive commodity and just 400 of the species remain, following the extinction of Javan and Balinese relatives.
- **Northern right whale.** Just a few hundred of these giants of the Atlantic have survived hunters seeking their oil. Their name comes from being the easiest whale to catch.

White gold

$133

The estimated price in U.S. dollars of a gram of powdered rhino horn — making it more valuable than gold or cocaine. This reflects a massive growth in demand — in 1980, a kilogram would sell for around $500 US.

Metropolitan Panel

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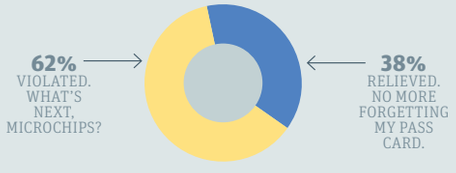
How would you feel if your employer tracked you via fingerprints?



Twitter

@VancityBuzz: #Vancouver named top Canadian City by travelers! See the top 5 list and how they ranked in each category http://ow.ly/fowag

@VanCanucks: Chris Tanev did something this past weekend for the @Chicago_Wolves he hadn't done in 730 days. He scored a goal. http://bit.ly/Uuk9bE

@quinndhaliwal: lifting weights beside Bieksa, Schneider, the Sedin's & the rest of the Canucks has defintely been the highlight of my day #ilovethelockout

@Tasche_CJK: Im starting to hate #vancouver's bipolar weather. Either rain the whole day or dont, dont stop mid way and give me hope that i wont get wet

metro

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Daniel Day-Lewis' portrayal of Abraham Lincoln has him as an early Oscar favourite this year. DAVID JAMES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Day-Lewis filling big shoes in character and competition

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Mark S. Reinhart, author of Abraham Lincoln on Screen, claims the 16th President of the United States, "is the most frequently portrayed American historical figure in the history of the film and television arts."

Portrayed more than 300 times on film and TV, Honest Abe has done everything from pardon a sentry who fell asleep on duty in the 1908 short film The Reprieve: An Episode in the Life of Abraham Lincoln, to getting revenge on his assassin in Police Squad to teaming up with Star Trek's Captain Kirk to explain the concepts of good and evil to the aliens of Excalbia. In this weekend's Lincoln, starring Daniel Day-Lewis, the president oversees the passing of the 13th Amendment, guaranteeing freedom for the country's slaves and ending the Civil War. Day-Lewis is a lock for an Oscar nomination, and a favorite to win, but his portrayal stands in the shadow of two movie legends.

Henry Fonda played the title character in Young Mr. Lincoln, a melodramatic and inaccurate chronicle of Abe's formative years.

Wearing specially made boots that made him appear taller, Fonda was honoured to play the president.

"I felt as if I were portraying Christ himself on film," he said.

Canadian-born Raymond Massey played Lincoln multiple times on stage and film.

He was so attached to the character a colleague joked that Massey wouldn't be satisfied with his Lincoln impression until someone assassinated him. For a certain generation, however, Lincoln might be best remembered for a speech that began with, "Fourscore and seven minutes ago…" and ended with, "Party on, dudes!"

But Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure isn't the only movie to take a light-hearted look at the Great Emancipator.

In Coneheads, Dan Aykroyd's character uses Abe's famous stovepipe top hat to cover his oblong head.

One of Brendan Fraser's seven wishes in Bedazzled is to be president. But he soon learns to be careful what he wishes for when he is zapped back into history as Lincoln himself as he watches a play at Ford's Theatre. Abe also gets a laugh in Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian when the Lincoln Memorial comes to life.

Perhaps the strangest portrayal came earlier this year. Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter is exactly as advertised, leading one critic to call it, "a funny, scary, and cheerworthy adventure that somehow manages to make the 16th President of the United States a bad-ass action hero."

Another Movie Review and Screentimes

Best Bond in years

Skyfall

Actors. Daniel Craig, Javier Bardem, Judy Dench

When a terrorist hacker leads a deadly cyber attack on MI6 headquarters, 007 (Daniel Craig) springs into action at the request of his boss and mentor M (Judy Dench). His investigation leads him to Raoul Silva (Javier Bardem), a psychotic criminal interested in revenge.

Skyfall is the most thematically mature Bond movie yet, paying homage to the past, while redefining the future of the franchise. It's also the most purely entertaining Bond in ages, with a bad guy for a new generation and a heady mix of action and intellect that will leave you shaken and stirred.

RICHARD CROUSE

Vancouver

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4555 Dunbar Street,
604-222-2991
Skyfall (PG) Thu 12

Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver
900 Burrard St.,
604-630-1407
Skyfall (PG) Wed 12:07 Thu 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:45

Richmond

SilverCity Riverport
14211 Entertainment Way,
604-272-7280
Skyfall: The IMAX Experience (PG) Wed 12:07 Thu 12:40-3:50-7-10:15

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Lights, camera, action!

It's the question we've all been pondering from the second we heard that three more Star Wars movies were planned: Who will direct them? Here's a wish list, or a wouldn't-it-be-cool list, because a lot of the people here are tied up with franchises of their own

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

J.J. Abrams

The most obvious choice, really. His sci-fi bona fides were already beyond reproach, and he solidified them with his re-imagining of the Star Trek franchise in 2009. His sequel Star Trek Into Darkness is due out next year.

Jon Favreau

He's a massive Star Wars fan and is extremely knowledgeable about Lucas and his life. He's also shown he can manipulate the kind of massive machinery it takes to make a blockbuster with the hugely successful Iron Man movies.

Peter Jackson

Sure, it makes sense. He's directed the Lord of the Rings trilogy — a massive franchise with a rabid fan base. But the last of his three Hobbit movies comes out in 2014. He might already be kinda wiped out at this point.

Sam Mendes

This might seem an odd choice until you see Skyfall. And you really should see Skyfall this weekend. But the American Beauty director said making a James Bond movie left him "knackered," so who knows whether he'd be up to it.

Kathryn Bigelow

She's just a bad-ass; a pioneering female action director. She proved she had a way with big, splashy set pieces with Point Break and became the first woman to win the best-director Oscar for The Hurt Locker.

Joss Whedon

Like Abrams, he has cultivated a well-deserved and loyal following among sci-fi fans between Firefly and Serenity, but he catapulted himself into a whole other stratosphere with last summer's hit The Avengers.

Christopher Nolan

Dark Knight. 'Nuff said.

David Fincher

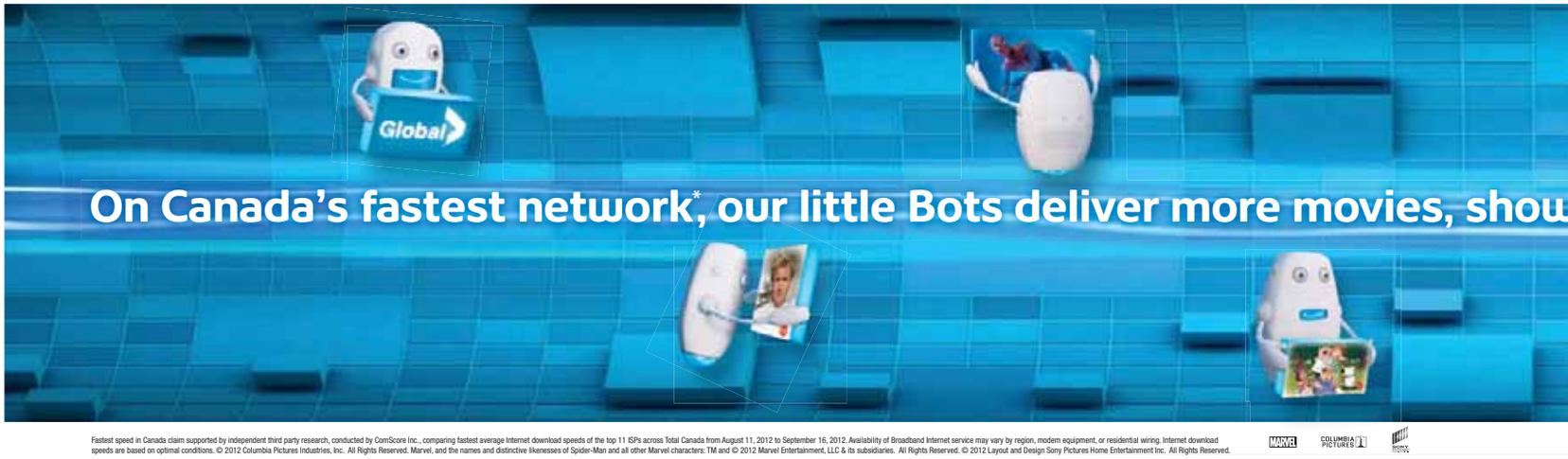
A hugely confident, virtuoso filmmaker mostly known for drama, but his remake of the Swedish hit The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo was epic, and The Social Network and The Curious Case of Benjamin Button showcased his mastery of special-effects.

Matthew Vaughn

His film Kick-Ass was exactly that, a lively, funny tale, while X-Men: First Class was one of the better-reviewed films in the series. Before that, his debut film Layer Cake showed an instinctive ability to create tension.

Guillermo del Toro

The ingenious maker of Pan's Labyrinth and the Hellboy movies has a visual style that's so wonderfully weird and inspired, it would never be allowed in such a structured setting. But it would be wondrous to watch.



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A Great Big 20 years of making music

Great Big Sea. Band takes a look back with career-spanning retrospective collection

Canadian band members of Great Big Sea Alan Doyle, right, and Bob Hallett in Toronto on Nov. 2. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The members of Great Big Sea haven't spent much time looking back over the years — and they've spent even less time patting each other on the back.

"Kicking each other in the ass is probably more like it," laughed the band's Bob Hallett in an interview this week in Toronto, seated next to frontman Alan Doyle.

Well, that changed as the band reached its 20th anniversary, marking the occasion with the newly released career-spanning retrospective XX, available either as a two-disc collection or a four-CD, one-DVD boxed set, replete with oddities, rarities and eccentricities sure to appeal to fans with a completist streak.

Since the St. John's, N.L., folk-rock troubadours were already reflecting, The Canadian Press asked Hallett and Doyle to retrace their steps along a journey that almost exclusively followed those roads less travelled.

Putting this collection together required revisiting a lot of old tunes. Did you feel the impulse to change anything?

Alan Doyle: God yes.

Bob Hallett: Everything. Given time, we would have gone back and re-recorded it all again. (Laughs.) But what was fun was to hear ideas that went astray or got left behind ... and say, "No, that was a great one. Why did we let that go?" Or, "That was terrible. Why did we persist so long?"

Is there a record you look back on more fondly than the rest?

Doyle: (1995's) Up ... was a crash course in how to make a record. We felt the weight of expectations. I just remember realizing halfway through that we really had no clue what we were doing and we couldn't speak a musical language that every other musician could seemingly speak. I remember Danny Greenspoon produced that record and he would say very common musical terms, like, "Just sing a third above and we'll go from there." Well, I have no idea what that is. What does that mean?

Hallett: The one for me that stands out ... would probably be (2005's) The Hard and the Easy record. After a long period of being heavily produced and making records very quickly and really worrying about how they'd sell ... that record was made in an atmosphere of complete indifference and freedom. No one was expecting it to sell. There's not a song on that that I can't listen to and say, "That's a great song."

So, how about the opposite — is there an album you look upon less fondly?

Hallett: I would echo Alan — Up. Even though it's a record that sold almost a million copies, I find it painful to listen to because I hear us struggling with the process, and trying to come to grips with the idea of making records like a real band, and re-learning our instruments and how to sing and everything. I remember how difficult it was, to turn into professionals overnight.

Doyle: We realized very quickly how in over our heads we were.

Hallett: Oh my God. We're phonies. We're complete frauds.

Not many bands make it 20 years. How do you maintain harmony?

Doyle: The way to be in a band for a lifetime is to want to be in a band for a lifetime. Not to want to have the greatest summer of your life or to have a No. 1 single and then go and spend the money on a plane.

Was there ever a time in those 20 years where you worried the band would break up?

Doyle: Only every day. Constantly. You constantly worry. And if worry is too strong a word, it's constantly on our minds because we've always considered ourselves so lucky to get to do it. The only ones rowing the boat are us. It's not going to coast. So yeah, I think it's that kind of honest desire to keep it moving forward and a fear of it stopping that has always driven us.

You've been nominated for 11 Junos, but you've never won. Be honest: Does it bother you?

Doyle: Of course. Yeah.

Hallett: Losing, that's fun!

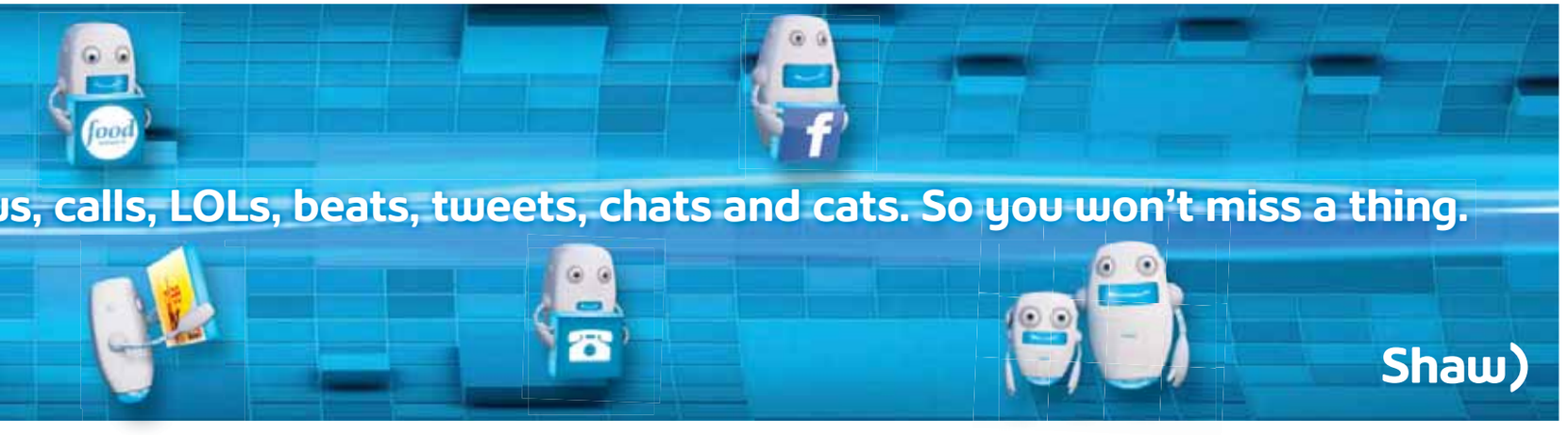
Doyle: We always put on our posters, "Juno nominees." Really what that means is Juno losers. The reason we haven't won a Juno is because it's hard to win a Juno, because there's a lot of good records. There's times where I've felt like the records that won the awards that year, well, of course they were going to win — they're amazing. There's other ones where I've thought, "I think we should have had a shot at that." But you know, it would be great to finally win one so we could take that "Juno losers" off our posters.

You've consistently released platinum or gold albums. Is there a sense that the popularity of the band is underrated by the Canadian music industry?

Doyle: It's been a blessing to a certain degree. There's definitely people in the Canadian music business that, one day when they open a piece of paper and they look at Great Big Sea's ticket sales or album sales, they're going to be shocked. Very well established people in the Canadian music business will go: "Oh. Really? I thought they were a pub band."

Hallett: We've never had a top 10 hit. Our last song that made the top 20 was in 1999 (Consequence Free). We've been really lucky to have a big year at the business level but to do it outside the critical radar of the music business.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Bruno Mars loves SNL's 'amazing operation'

Bruno Mars' recent appearance on Saturday Night Live was more like Saturday Night Fever: He says he had so much fun hosting the show, he'd be happy to do it again.

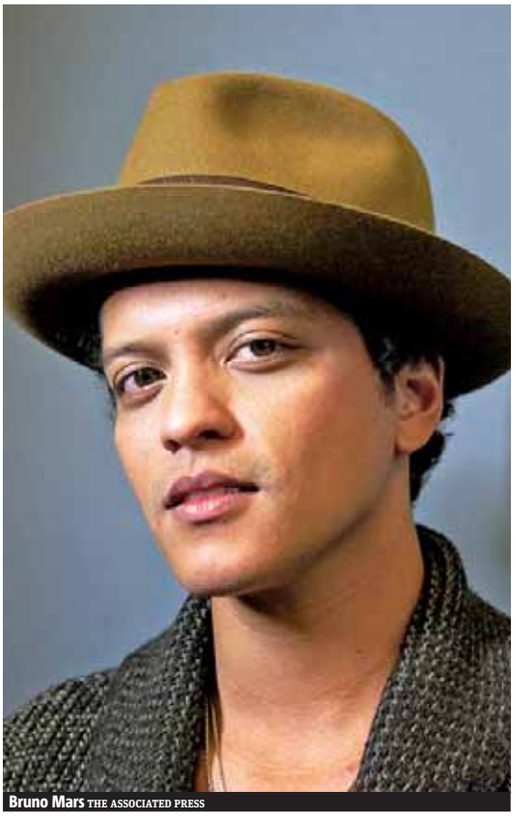
"Whatever SNL wants from me, they can always call me," the smiling 27-year-old said in an interview. "I don't know who told them I can act or anything 'cause I can't. I don't know what they saw. (But) whatever they need from me, they can get."

The singer-songwriter's Oct. 20 appearance as host and musical guest gave the NBC variety show its second best ratings this season behind last week's episode, hosted by comedian Louis C.K.

Mars was praised for his hilarious and silly sketches, particularly one skit where he did impersonations of other musicians as a live fill-in at Pandora when the company's computers crashed.

"It was kind of a way for me to face my fears and just let it all hang loose, literally," he said, laughing. "People don't understand that they're changing things right before the show, so you can't memorize lines because they're going to change it. They cut sketches and it's an amazing operation. I wouldn't trade that experience for the world."

The Grammy winner says he watched the show days after it aired live, and that's when things started to sink in, especially seeing himself dressed as a woman.



Bruno Mars THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I was like, 'Oh my god,"' he said, adding with a laugh: "Called my mom, 'Mom!"'

The SNL success is giving Mars a boost as he readies the release of his sophomore album, Unorthodox Jukebox, out Dec. 11. It features Esperanza Spalding, Mark Ronson, Jeff Bhasker, Diplo, Paul Epworth and others.

On SNL, he debuted a new song, Young Girls, and performed his current single, the upbeat Locked Out of Heaven. It's his 12th Top 10 hit on the Billboard Hot 100 chart as a performer, songwriter or producer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mayim Bialik, who earned a best supporting Emmy nomination on Big Bang Theory, still struggles to explain the show's success.

SONJA FLEMMING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Even neuroscientist Mayim Bialik can't explain Big Bang popularity

Canadian television. Sitcom's success in the North continues to defy odds and baffle one of the actresses who stars in the show

The most watched TV show in Canada — by far — is The Big Bang Theory. It has been topping weekly Canadian ratings charts for years.

The six-year-old CBS sitcom regularly draws between 3.5 and 4 million viewers a week on CTV. The Canadian network also airs reruns of The Big Bang Theory weeknights during the supper hour. Those reruns outdraw much of what is seen in prime time across all networks in Canada.

CTV is even using the series to sway viewers away from CBC during the hockey stoppage. Saturday marathons of the comedy were being billed as Big Bang Night in Canada until CBC complained. They are currently outdrawing CBC's Your Pick classic hockey reruns by more than a five-to-one margin. The series is also a popular draw on CTV's specialty channel The Comedy Network.

Usually, when a network over-uses a series to this extent, it drives it into the ground. The famous example is Who Wants to Be A Millionaire, a runaway success in the '90s until ABC started airing it four nights a week across its schedule.

Yet Big Bang remains bullet proof. Why can't Canadians get enough of it?

The question was put to an actual neuroscientist: Mayim Bialik. She also happens to star on the series as Sheldon's brilliant but frustrated girlfriend Amy.

"I think they're laughing at us, that's the problem," she deadpanned at a CBS press party held at the most recent Television Critics Association gathering in Los Angeles.

Doing deadpan is a Bialik specialty. The 36-year-old has been using that acting trick ever since her days as a child star on the early '90s sitcom Blossom.

Background on Bialik

Mayim Bialik joined The Big Bang Theory at the tail end of Season Three as Dr. Amy Farrah Fowler.

- **Character.** She plays the "friend that's a girl, not a girlfriend" to brainy fuss pot Sheldon Cooper (Jim Parsons). At first a recurring character, she became a regular half way through the fourth season. Last season she earned a best supporting Emmy nomination.

Bialik really has no idea why the series gets a bigger bang in Canada.

"The Canadian and United States sense of humour is similar," she observes. "I don't think there's anything mystical about that."

"Maybe," she speculates, "people are more inclined to like nerdy people in Canada."

It may also help that the series' theme song is performed by the nerdiest of Canadian bands, the Barenaked Ladies.

For much of the last decade, Bialik was more focused on studies than sitcoms.

"I had never heard of The Big Bang Theory. I didn't watch TV, I don't watch TV," Bialik said.

Accepted at both Harvard and Yale, she chose to stick close to home and pursue her degrees at UCLA. That's where she completed her doctorate in neuroscience. Married with two children, she's also written a book on child rearing, Beyond the Sling: A Real Life Guide to Raising Confident, Loving Children the Attachment Parenting Way.

One thing her kids — ages seven and four — are not attached to is television. The oldest saw his first TV this summer during the Olympics. Neither has seen Big Bang or Blossom.

"I grew up with some of the best and worst sitcoms of the '80s," she says.

All that exposure to the boob tube didn't seem to rot her brain — or kill her TV career. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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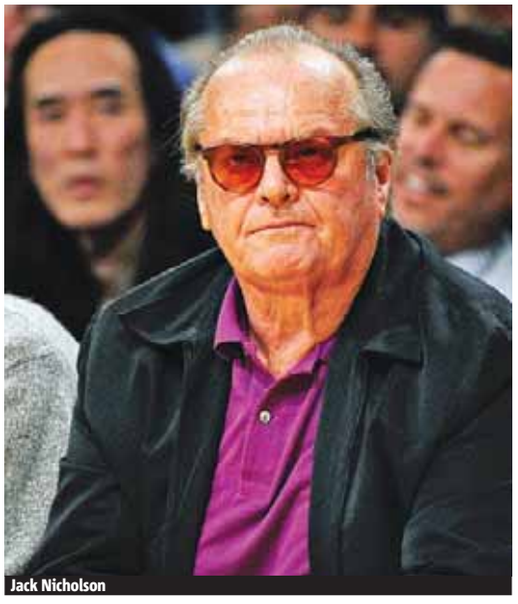

Jack Nicholson

Nicholson: I'm no sex machine

Jack Nicholson isn't a fan of his reputation as a Hollywood Lothario.

"I am an extreme person. If someone says, 'Jack, you are a womanizer,' I don't deny it. But the life of a gigolo always ends badly," the 75-year-old Oscar-winner tells the Sun. "That is one of the reasons I feel uncomfortable about all that 'sex legend' stuff." Nicholson also says that reports of his conquests — he's rumored to have bedded more than 2,000 women — are greatly exaggerated.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

I'm voting for:

In honour of the U.S. presidential election, The Word decided to cast a vote for their favourite celebrity causes.

I vote:

… for **Amanda Bynes** to report to rehab, directly to rehab, do not pass go, do not collect $200.

… for **Johnny Depp** to buy some eye makeup remover.

… for **Britney Spears** to keep on hiring whomever she's employing to make her seem sane. They are doing a pretty bang-up job.

… for **Beyoncé and Jay-Z** to keep breeding.

… for **Ashton Kutcher** to stop following in the footsteps of Charlie Sheen.

... for more **Michael Fassbender** — with or without pants on. Where did that guy get to?

… for **Christina Aguilera** to not feel pressure to go crazy on the elliptical. You look good just the way you are, girl.

...for **Matthew McConaughey's** ongoing research into ways to reveal his chest on camera.

… for **Ryan Reynolds** to join Matrimonials Anonymous and admit he really just likes taking part in weddings.

… for **Nicole Kidman** to burn this dress immediately

Alley talks about love of Swayze

It's never too late to tell the truth, apparently. Kirstie Alley has revealed that she and the late Patrick Swayze began an "intense emotional relationship" while filming the 1985 miniseries North and South, according to Entertainment Tonight.

"Both of us were married," Alley explains, adding that she wouldn't call what happened between them "an affair," exactly.

"But again, I think what we did was worse," she says. "Because I think when you fall in love with someone when you're married, you jeopardize your own marriage and their marriage. It's doubly bad."

Alley says that she's not sure if Swayze's widow, Lisa Niemi — with whom she's still friends — was aware to the relationship before now.

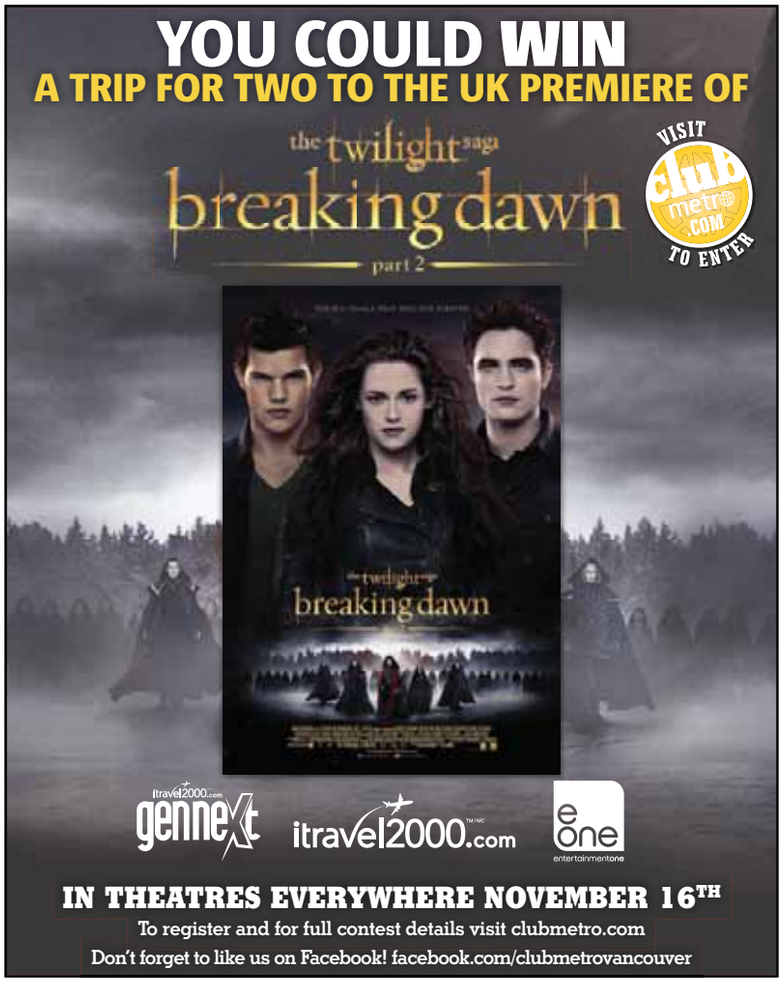
Twitter

@SethMacFarlane
I hope American voters realize that the outcome of this election will seriously impact peoples' mood at the Oscars.

@Pink
I've been told that hackers can tap into your laptop computers and watch through ur cameras, so always put a post it over your camera!

@jeremypiven
Missed the summer so thank you global warming as I was sweating like a Hebrew slave today...

@AlbertBrooks
The most accurate polls will be out Wednesday.



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Phoenix Christmas	was ~~$649~~ now $599
Orlando	was ~~$659~~ now $609
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5 Breaks from Christmas

With the Halloween candy barely eaten and Christmas carols already playing in the mall, you might be thinking of skipping out on the holiday stress. Here are a few ideas for destinations that are mercifully Christmas-free.

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

1 Visit the Muslim Marrakesh, Morocco

Why? This atmospheric, iconic Moroccan city with its pink ramparts feels pretty festive all year round, and Christmas is a non-event here because Morocco is mainly a Muslim country.

How? By day, lose yourself in the warren of the maze-like medina old town, haggle over carpets in the sprawling souk, then unwind in a roasting hammam. By night, tuck into street food for supper from the steaming stalls that are set up every night in the central square, Jemaa el-Fnaa, enjoy a tasting menu in a chic hotel or hang out in one of the glossy nightclubs and cocktail bars in the new town. Head to the souk for leather pouffes, spices and traditional pointed slippers in soft leather in Africa's largest indoor market. visitmorocco.com

2 Health boot camp in Thailand

Why? Instead of piling on the pounds at a family feast, lose them at a Thai detox spa instead.

How? Thailand is a mainly Buddhist country, so you won't see Santa everywhere here, and besides, you'll find it hard to care during your cleanse. On the detox retreat at Samui Spa on the idyllic island of Koh Samui, you'll enjoy daily yoga, too.

3 Change the date for Christmas in Moscow, Russia

Why? The Russian Orthodox Christmas isn't until Jan. 7, so you get two whole weeks in which to give Christmas craziness the slip.

How? If you like your winters white and your cities atmospheric, then Moscow is a top choice. You can skip Christmas here, but you do get the mother of all parties for New Years — when you can see 2013 by fuelling yourself with local vodka and joining the locals as they gather in Red Square to hear the Kremlin's bells peal.

4 Take a silent retreat at Mount Koya, Japan

Why? Tokyo may be lit up like a Christmas tree at this time of year and heaving with shoppers, but you can also go for a deeper and less superficial experience at Mount Koya, Japan.

How? Stay at the ninth century monastery at the top of Mount Koya, two hours from Osaka, and you can trade commercialism for spiritualism. Fifty-three of the 120 temples here in this exquisite woodland wilderness host guests in traditional shukubo lodgings with rice-paper sliding doors, tatami mats and futons; some with private gardens complete with bonsai trees. You'll eat traditional Buddhist vegetarian food and can experience zazen, a type of meditation practiced by the monks here. shukubo.jp/eng

5 Escape to a paradise island, Vietnam

Why? If you're looking to escape the crowds, cold weather and commercialism, escape to the tropical paradise island of Phu Quoc in the Gulf of Thailand.

How? Vietnam's largest island, Phu Quoc, is an undiscovered gem. It's also home to Vietnam's finest fish sauce and an exceptional place to eat fresh seafood. Hole up at luxurious but laidback Chen Sea Resort and Spa on the island's idyllic west coast. Learn how to cook the perfect prawn with their Iron Chef-contestant head chef, who will take you to buy ingredients at the buzzing local market first. centarahotels-resorts.com

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Autumn flavours get baked up in Cardamom Cranberry Pear Crisp

Ground cardamom gives this simple fall-friendly crisp a sweet-spicy flavour that you will smell as much as taste. Don't worry too much about which type of oats to use in a recipe such as this. Though old fashioned rolled oats are the best, feel free to use the "quick" variety if that's what you happen to have. The differences won't be tremendous.

1. Heat the oven to 400 F. Coat a 9-by-9-inch pan with cooking spray.

2. To make the topping, in a medium bowl use an electric mixer to beat together the butter and brown sugar until creamy. Add the flour, oats, cinnamon and salt. Stir together until the mixture just forms moistened crumbs and small clumps. Set aside.

3. To make the filling, in a medium bowl, toss together the pears, cranberries, brown sugar, cardamom, salt and cornstarch.

4. Spread the mixture evenly into the prepared pan. Sprinkle the topping evenly over the filling. Bake for about 1 hour, or until the pears are tender and bubbling and the topping is well browned.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

Topping
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, room temperature
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup oats (see above)
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp salt

Filling
- 8 pears, peeled, cored and sliced
- 8-oz package frozen or fresh cranberries
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp ground cardamom
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 2 tsp cornstarch

Cardamom Cranberry Pear Crisp

This recipe serves eight. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Deep Purple

Not only is it delicious, Deep Purple also looks amazing served up with pebble ice. It's great for a fall dinner party.

- 1.75 oz Tesseron Lot 76 XO Cognac
- 1 oz Noval Black Port
- .75 oz Lillet Rouge
- 6 concord grapes
- 1 shiso leaf

Muddle the concord grapes and shiso. Add the rest of the ingredients and ice. Shake and strain into a chilled rocks glass filled with pebble ice. Garnish with a shiso leaf. METRO WORLD NEWS/ JIM MEEHAN AND KAREN FU OF PDT IN NEW YORK

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Boomer bosses: The how and the Y

Work with me.

Managing the expectations of two very different generations

YLVA
VAN BUUREN
life@metronews.ca

For generation Y workers, understanding and managing the expectations of baby boomer bosses is becoming as important these days as having the skills to do the job. Here's a look at what baby boomers watch for in the workplace.

Put in face time

The tendency, because of technology, is for gen-Ys to do their work fast, says Antoine Gaber, a Toronto-based film producer of It's All About Me, a documentary that examines the broad differences between gen-Ys and baby boomers. "Regardless, baby boomers expect employees to stay and work in the office."

Gen Ys need constant praise, right? Blow up that stereotype by saying you are looking for feedback so you can constantly get better. ISTOCK

X, Y, see!

"Boomers are almost 50 per cent of the workplace today and by 2020, they'll be down to 20 per cent, while gen-Y will have doubled. Gen-X will only be one-third the size of either one of these generations, and gen-Ys will be growing at twice the rate as gen-Xs"

Donna Stevenson
Boomer Match to Business

Understand business etiquette

Nine to five still exists, and it's important to dress appropriately for the office (not necessarily jeans every day).

"Don't expect instant camaraderie with your boomer boss," says Lauren Friese, founder of TalentEgg. "They expect a certain level of formality and respect."

It's my way or the highway

Baby boomers are very ego centric and expect others to have the same work ethic and work the same hours, says Donna Stevenson, owner of the recruitment firm Boomer Match to Business (bm2b.ca).

Boomers were raised in an environment where you work hard and pay your dues and then you go up the ladder, adds Gaber.

Respect experience

Says Stevenson: "Look around the business and look at what boomers are doing and which ones interest you the most in terms of career development. Then, approach them for mentoring."

Follow the rules about getting ahead

"Instead of expecting quick raises or promotions," says Friese, "talk about compensation being based on merit."

Respect my decisions

"Baby boomers value respect for their knowledge," says Gaber. Be careful about saying things like, 'This is wrong' or 'It'd be faster if you do it this way,' advises Friese. "Sit quiet, learn how the organization does what they do inside and out and then suggest change."

Share your tech expertise

Gen-Ys can help boomers with technology, especially social media. "There's an opportunity for gen-Y to say, 'You have this skill that I'd like and I have this skill, so let's do reverse mentoring,'" says Stevenson.

Translation

What boomers meant when they said...

"If you go to school and get a diploma, you'll have a good career, be able to make money and start a family."

What they meant: We really just want to protect your self-esteem as you grow up.

The result: Gen-Ys have high expectations of their work. But when they get into the workplace, there's lots of competition and baby boomers still expect all employees to put in their time.

"Gen-Y, you're so fast, you know the technology, and you have great ideas!"

What they meant: You can never get too much encouragement ... but the workplace is different. Even with a diploma, you've got to work from the bottom up. Only working hard and putting in hours will show that you're smart and capable.

The result: There's a clash in the workplace between the attitudes and ideals of these two groups.

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MICHELLE CIRCOSTA
TalentEgg.ca

Turn 'can I take your order' into an excellent introduction to the working world. ISTOCK

One of the biggest challenges students must face is balancing time between short-term and long-term goals.

Many choose to maintain part-time jobs while enrolled in full-time university or college programs. Sometimes that part-time job may not directly align with your long-term career aspirations and often the two are entirely unrelated. It's all a matter of circumstance or preference.

Whatever the reason, rest assured that it is possible to leverage your part-time job in the pursuit of your long sought after goals for the future. The question is how can you get the greatest return out of what may often feel like a seemingly aimless time investment?

Make it relevant

Think about the position you want after graduation. How can the skills you are developing and perfecting help improve your knowledge repertoire?

Take, for example, a part-time retail position in sales. The list of valuable skills is endless: Meeting sales goals, sustaining relationships with customers, training new hires — all of which can translate to a wealth of other positions. But even if your interests do not lie in the corporate world, be innovative, think of ways you can make your part-time position applicable to those goals.

Frame your experience

You are the storyteller and it's up to you to get the person on the other end of the interaction to hear exactly what you want them to know. It's that simple.

Part-time work experience, in whatever field, helps not only to develop valuable skills, but also builds character and demonstrates integrity. According to Amir Khan, client and student advisor at York University's Schulich School of Business, recruiters are interested in the technical skills of a candidate, but they also place emphasis on your soft skills when considering your application.

Going the extra mile can get you noticed

Let's take a look at someone who took full advantage of the opportunities made available to him by his part-time job. Anthony Saracino was a full-time student enrolled in the fashion communications program at Ryerson University and he graduated with a Bachelor of Design. Saracino worked part-time at Guess as a sales representative while he was in school — a familiar scenario for many students.

The difference with Saracino is that he never lost sight of his long-term goals and was fueled by his passion for the fashion industry. Naturally, this led him to go beyond the stipulations of his job description.

He began putting together the window displays for the Guess location where he worked. His displays were so eye-catching that when Marciano himself was performing store visits, he noticed the displays — and Saracino — and flew him out to work in Los Angeles. **TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND NEW GRADUATES, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE. SHARE IT AT TALENTEGG.CA.**

Not just a job

Part-time retail work is still relevant experience

- Take Robert Rizzo, for example, a director of marketing for a multi-national consumer packaged goods company. When he was a full-time BBA student at Schulich, he also worked as a sales associate at Gap and was extremely well-versed in the art of jean folding.
- Even today, with his wealth of experience and knowledge, should Rizzo find himself in a job interview, referring back to his time at Gap is one of his favourite strategies. "You don't need professional experience to have a platform to showcase what you can accomplish," he says.

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The university experience is comprised of various different aspects of social and scholastic life.

Looking back on my time at the University of Toronto, I realized that, for many of those years, I didn't take full advantage of everything higher education had to offer.

As I entered my fourth year, however, I decided that things would change. I made a pledge to myself to step out of my comfort zone, try new things and hopefully become a more well-rounded person.

University or college is not only about reading textbooks or writing essays, but also provides you with vital skills and experiences which can be used later on, mainly in a career environment.

For most of my time at school, I only focused on academia and maintaining friendships with the people I had known from my hometown. Yet, I decided for my fourth and final year, I would make an attempt to meet new people with similar interests and get more involved in the topics that interest me.

I have found that the initiative taken in my final year has given me not only the opportunity to have new experiences, but also a fresh perspective on the career path I am pursuing.

Join a club

Joining a club at school is not only a great way to meet new people, but also an easy way to develop leadership and communication skills. These skills make you a more confident person, but more importantly, they make you more hireable.

The club that I joined at the U of T was the United Nations development program. I applied on a whim and landed an executive position as a project manager of the women's empowerment initiative. I assisted in the planning of an International Women's Day event, delivered speeches and presentations and met with potential new members.

As a result of my involvement with this club, I improved my ability to communicate with others, especially in front of large audiences. Furthermore, I now have experience in project management and taking on leadership roles.

Look around you

Find unique opportunities in your new community

- Often times when students begin post-secondary school, they move to cities they are not very familiar with. Although this can be a scary experience, it is an extremely beneficial one that encourages personal development. New cities offer the opportunity to meet new people, explore innovative industries and research corporations and businesses you otherwise wouldn't have known about.

Get a job on campus

As a student, you often find yourself very broke but also very busy. While people often need part-time jobs during their time at university, finding such positions can be inconvenient. A solution to this is working on campus.

Working on campus is a great opportunity to become more familiar with your school, faculty and programs. One suggestion is working as a research assistant for a professor. In this job, you not only get experience in the field of your choice, you also gain a great academic reference. Having hands-on experience early on will help you confirm whether or not you are on the right path career-wise.

For instance, early on in university, I had planned on eventually going to law school. However, as I got acquainted with professors and professionals who work in fields such as international development, I came to realize that it was a more appropriate path for me. This was useful in that I began to feel comfortable enough to abandon my earlier plan and fully embrace a new one.

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Hospitality management diploma	
Wednesday, Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m. – room 420	Downtown
Adult special education	
Thursday, Nov. 8, 10:30 a.m. – room 309	Downtown
Music	
Thursday, Nov. 8, 1 p.m. – room 4001	Broadway
Administrative assistant	
Monday, Nov. 12, 3:30 p.m. – room 622	Downtown
Transportation trades	
Tuesday, Nov. 13, 11 a.m. – lobby, building B	Broadway
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Tuesday, Nov. 13, 5:30 p.m. – room 501	Downtown
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Tuesday, Nov. 13, 6 p.m. – room 420	Downtown

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Broadway campus is located at 1155 East Broadway, one block west of Clark Drive and across from VCC/Clark SkyTrain station.

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Student voice

Dear liberal arts graduates...

Kelly Bowman
Graduate
Honors specialization in media and the public interest
Western University
TalentEgg.ca

Kelly Bowman PROVIDED

There are some things they forgot to tell you at convocation.

For many of you, there will be a gap between now and the beginning of your career. Most of the advice given to you that day, although inspiring and meaningful, will not prepare you for your immediate futures or the challenges you will face.

Most of you will not get your dream job. A lot of you won't know what your dream is, or your dreams will change. Many of you won't find jobs in your field for several years, if at all. Only a handful of people can become the new leadership, and if you all think it's going to be you, only a few of you can be right.

Statistically, over half of you will still live with your parents if you're under 25. If you're under 29, it is closer to a third.

Rejection will probably be a closer friend than usual for a while, as will un, or under employment, though they tend to come and go. Many of you will be in debt, which all too soon will start collecting interest.

The excitement you feel to start this new chapter in your life won't go away, but you will be more angry, insecure, uncertain, disappointed, confused, depressed and scared at more times than you expected.

The role nepotism will play in your future has probably been severely understated. Many of you who have avoided using these connections on principle will cave, and you won't be sure if you like yourself for it. Many of you will not have many relationships to leverage, and you will feel you have wrongly been put at a disadvantage.

You have spent several years at school developing a set of ethics which may not be entirely compatible with the tasks you are asked to do. You might have to navigate the choice, like many others before you, between doing what seemed right when you were younger and what allows you to support yourself.

You will most likely work for free for a while (if your circumstances allow you to), and as much as this will pose a rather large problem to your finances, in some other ways it will give you an unexpected gift. You have the opportunity to explore, experiment, and make mistakes — and you will make a few.

I am not telling you this to be depressing, discouraging, or to dampen your enthusiasm. Resilience and resourcefulness are some of the best tools you can have.

I am telling you this so you know the most important thing they forgot to tell you at convocation: if you are this person you have not failed.

There are a lot of us, and we're thinking about getting jackets.

What I'm doing now

I currently work part-time, have an unpaid internship with a Toronto based not-for-profit as a public relations coordinator, and am hoping to pick up a volunteer position with my local distress center. I graduated this past June and have explored four different internship/practicum programs within the last year. I live at home (thanks Mom).

My recommendations for employers, career centres and schools

I honestly don't feel my opinion here has much clout. I'm sure there are a lot of services, resources, and strategies I still know nothing about. I find new ones all the time, and the ones I have accessed have all been useful in one way or another (even if not in the way I had hoped or expected). The best advice I can give is quite general: ensure your advice is backed by research, do your best to keep up with the changing work environment, and provide students with as much information as you can. Lastly, forgive us for being anxious and irritable by the time we get to you — we know you're trying to help, we're just scared.

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@Alison_L_Pearce:
Customer service skills like problem solving, active listening and negotiation are skills you'll use for the rest of your career!

@meryemaslam:
it learn to #network & show them where their strengths and weaknesses are...important self-reflection/ assessment skill #parttime

CFL

Lions defender Bighill receives award for October

B.C. Lions middle linebacker Adam Bighill was named the Canadian Football League's defensive player of the month for October.

The league made the announcement Tuesday morning.

Bighill, who earned the starting linebacker role out of training camp in June, recorded 27 tackles, five sacks and one interception in the past five games, including Saturday's win over the Saskatchewan Roughriders to conclude the regular season.

Bighill finished the regular season with 104 tackles — second in the CFL behind J.C. Sherritt of the Edmonton Eskimos — nine sacks and four interceptions.

The Lions are in the midst of a bye week, and will host the Western final on Nov. 18. CAM TUCKER/METRO

MLS

Changes may have hurt Whitecaps, says Lenarduzzi

Vancouver Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi believes his team made great strides this season, becoming the first Canadian-based Major League Soccer team to qualify for the MLS Cup playoffs.

However, he conceded the abundance of mid-season changes may have disrupted the team down the stretch, when the Caps won just once in their final 10 regular-season games.

"I don't want to get into specifics of players but there's no doubt that if we had it all to do again we probably wouldn't have made as many changes as we did," he said.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

Head coach Tony Fonseca of Canada, second from right, watches his team play Cuba during a 2012 CONCACAF men's Olympic qualifying match on March 26 in Nashville, Tenn. FREDERICK BREEDON/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Former 86er named CSA technical director

Soccer. Fonseca, who spent time playing in Vancouver, tasked with developing beautiful game in Canada

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

The Canadian Soccer Association, reeling in the wake of a disastrous World Cup qualifying loss last month, has named Tony Fonseca its new technical director.

The CSA officially announced the selection of Fonseca on Tuesday. He was among more than 30 applicants for the position, and is now tasked with developing soccer across the country at a time when the game has fallen under heavy scrutiny at its highest level.

The Canadian men's national team was embarrassed 8-1 by Honduras in World Cup qualifying, and failed to make it through to CONCACAF's final round.

Canada hasn't made it to a World Cup since 1986.

"This is not just one layer. The problem is many layers," said Fonseca in a conference call.

"But definitely we want to continue to work with the provinces, with the stakeholders, with the pro clubs and the academies and definitely find a solution.

"To be honest we view it as there is a lot of good things that have been done in terms of the Canadian Soccer Association and soccer in general in Canada. Obviously the problem is deeper than just one result, one game. Obviously we should not judge everything that we have done and we have in the country on one result."

A Portuguese international, Fonseca has been tied to Vancouver's soccer scene since the late 1990s.

He came to Canada in 1999 to play for the Vancouver 86ers, before retiring as a player and becoming a coach the following year.

He was named head coach of the Vancouver Whitecaps in 2002 and became the club's technical director in 2004.

He has also served as an assistant coach with Canada's national teams, including the squad that faltered against Honduras.

Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi believes Fonseca is the right fit for the job; however, developing players to perform at an elite level will prove to be a difficult task.

"It's not something that we've really ever stopped to address," said Lenarduzzi in a phone interview.

"Each time we get eliminated from qualifying for a World Cup, the coach gets fired or the coach resigns and that's been four times now ... that that's happened, without addressing the root of the problem and the root of the problem is player development."

Luongo the Leaf not likely, says Cherry

Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo stops a puck against the Sharks last January at Rogers Arena. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Don Cherry, the vociferous star of Hockey Night in Canada's Coach's Corner, has weighed in on Roberto Luongo trade rumours.

Speaking on Sportsnet 590 The FAN Toronto, Cherry discussed whether the Toronto Maple Leafs should trade for Luongo, still a Vancouver Canuck despite months of speculation he would be dealt elsewhere, when the lockout ends.

"Well, yeah, go after but ... to tell you the truth, I don't think he wants to come here," Cherry told hosts Mike Farwell and Jim Lang.

"Why would he want to come here and step into the same thing as Vancouver? Because every time (the Canucks) lose, it's his fault. He only took them to the seventh game (of the Stanley Cup Final). How many goaltenders have taken them to the seventh game?

"I don't think he wants to step in a real hot spot like here. He wants to go to Florida 'cause his wife comes from Florida. I think he's had enough of the gun to his head and if he comes here, he will."

For months, there has been talk amongst media and fans that the Leafs would try to land Luongo through a trade.

Luongo had a record of 31-14-8-5 last season with the Canucks, but was replaced by Cory Schneider in the Western Conference quarter-final against the L.A. Kings following back-to-back losses on home ice to begin the series.

Luongo, the gold medal-winning goalie for Canada at the 2010 Olympics, helped take the Canucks to the 2011 Stanley Cup Final, where they lost in seven games to the Boston Bruins.

"Although (the Leafs) would love to get him, boy. I know everybody's down on him but I think he's a dynamite goaltender," said Cherry.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

4 SPORTS

Hockey

Hefford hits 150 in Canada's Four Nations opener

Jayna Hefford had two goals to reach a scoring milestone and Shannon Szabados made 20 saves as Canada opened the Four Nations Cup with a 6-0 victory over host Finland on Tuesday.

Jennifer Wakefield, Rebecca Johnston, Hayley Wickenheiser and Meghan Agosta-Marciano also scored for Canada. Hefford's second goal was the 150th of her national team career.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Union concludes Cabrera's agents unaware of Internet scheme

The baseball players' union concluded Melky Cabrera's agents didn't know about a scheme to create a phoney website in defence of his positive drug test but said they failed to properly manage the employees of the firm who tried to carry out the scheme.

Brothers Sam and Seth Levinson, the heads of ACES Inc., were probed by the Major League Baseball Players Association after MLB's investigations department discovered the attempt to concoct evidence. Cabrera, the all-star game MVP, was suspended 50 games in August after testing positive for testosterone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Francisco Giants slugger Melky Cabrera. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Federer begins season-ending event in dominant fashion

Roger Federer of Switzerland plays a return to Janko Tipsarevic of Serbia during their singles tennis match at the ATP World Tour Finals on Tuesday in London, England. Federer opened his quest for a seventh season-ending tour title looking like the man to beat — again. The 17-time Grand Slam champion won his record 40th match at the tournament, defeating Tipsarevic 6-3, 6-1 in his opening Group B match.

KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fehr optimistic as NHL negotiations resume

Back to the table. League, players attempt to bridge gap in New York on lockout's 52nd day

Quoted

"We're hopeful that we'll start bargaining and we'll continue bargaining until we find a way to make a deal."

NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr ahead of Tuesday's negotiations

The NHL and NHL Players' Association didn't just return to the bargaining table on Tuesday. They stayed there for a good long time.

A seven-hour negotiating session at a secret location wrapped up at 10:15 p.m. ET on Tuesday night and ended with both sides declining to disclose the nature of discussions.

It was a potentially encouraging sign with the talks at a critical juncture.

The meeting was held in a private setting to maximize the chance for progress and the only hint that was made came from the fact negotiations would spill over into another day.

"With meetings scheduled to resume Wednesday, the league will not characterize the substance or detail of the discussions until their conclusion," deputy commissioner Bill Daly said in a statement on Tuesday night.

The NHLPA also declined to comment.

Donald Fehr, the union's executive director, met reporters before talks resumed on Tuesday afternoon and expressed a desire to see the parties start closing in on an agreement that would end the lockout.

The sides hadn't held a formal meeting since Oct. 18 in Toronto, when the NHL took about 10 minutes to dismiss three proposals put forward by the union.

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby attended that meeting and ended up making a "last-minute" decision to fly into New York for this one. He was among 13 players who joined the NHLPA contingent. A handful of team owners took part as well.

The biggest issue the sides have to bridge a gap on is the mechanism that would see all existing contracts honoured in full, even after the players' overall share in revenue is reduced to 50 per cent from its current position of 57 per cent.

The best-case scenario would seem to be a shortened schedule beginning on Dec. 1, although there remains time to drop the puck before then if a deal is reached soon. It's expected teams will hold seven-day training camps that begin once a new CBA is ratified.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baseball. Japan's Darvish pulls out of 2013 WBC

Yu Darvish decided that he won't pitch for his native Japan in the World Baseball Classic next spring, and will instead focus on preparing for his second season in the major leagues.

The Texas Rangers right-hander issued a statement Tuesday, saying he made the decision after much deliberation, including consultation with his coaches and trainers.

Darvish pitched for Japan in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, then helped his home country win its second straight WBC title in 2009. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas Rangers right-hander Yu Darvish. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Cycling

Former Armstrong teammate admits to using EPO

South African cyclist David George, a former teammate of Lance Armstrong, admitted to using the blood-boosting drug EPO on Tuesday.

The former U.S. Postal Service rider failed an out-of-competition doping test on Aug. 29, the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport said, and was provisionally suspended by Cycling South Africa ahead of an independent tribunal. He now faces a two-year ban. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reid, Eagles remain upbeat as season slowly slips away

Jeffrey Lurie put Andy Reid on the clock with a pre-season decree that mediocrity was no longer acceptable.

With each grim defeat, the harsh reality becomes clear. If Lurie, the Eagles owner, remains true to his word, Reid will be out of a job if Philadelphia continues to trudge through this season without a winning record or much hope for the future.

After an 8-8 season in 2011, Lurie called the results from this star-studded team unacceptable and said, "We need substantial improvement."

Eagles coach Andy Reid. GETTY IMAGES FILE

So, needless to say, this is not what he expected.

The Eagles (3-5) again were sloppy, battered and inefficient inside the red zone in a 28-13 loss to New Orleans on Monday night, their fourth consecutive loss. And the struggles are on both sides of the ball.

Reid said he can't worry about Lurie's win-or-else ultimatum, only about winning the next game, Sunday against Dallas (3-5).

"There is no time to think about those things," Reid said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Iguodala ignites as Nuggets top Pistons

Andre Iguodala scored six of his 17 points over the final three minutes to help the Denver Nuggets hold off the Detroit Pistons 109-97 and snap a three-game skid on Tuesday night.

The Nuggets broke out their new canary-yellow uniforms for their home opener and played pretty snazzy, especially late in the third quarter when they began opening up a 17-point lead. The Pistons rallied late, before Iguodala closed the door with two baskets and a pair of free throws. Iguodala also finished with 10 rebounds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nuggets guard Ty Lawson gets fouled by Pistons centre Greg Monroe on Tuesday in Denver. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thunder roll over Raptors

NBA. Toronto blown out after starting point guard Lowry leaves game with ankle injury

Russell Westbrook shrugged off a sore shoulder to score 19 points and the Oklahoma City Thunder cruised past the Toronto Raptors 108-88 on Tuesday night.

Wearing a black padded sleeve to protect his bruised left shoulder, Westbrook held Toronto's leading scorer, Kyle Lowry, to two points on 1-of-4 shooting. Lowry exited with 1:29 left in the second quarter with a right-ankle sprain and did not return.

Lowry hurt himself after landing on Thunder forward-centre Serge Ibaka's foot while going for a rebound in the second quarter.

Lowry entered Toronto's fourth game of the season averaging 23.7 points per game, 7.3 rebounds per game and seven assists per game.

Serge Ibaka added 17 points for Oklahoma City. Kevin Durant and reserve Kevin Martin each scored 15.

Tuesday's game

108	88
Thunder	Raptors

The Thunder led by as many as 29 points and never trailed after Durant converted a pair of free throws with 7:44 remaining in the first quarter.

Jonas Valanciunas led the Raptors with 18 points and Andrea Bargnani had 16. Toronto dropped to 1-3 and will play in Dallas on Wednesday night.

Oklahoma City coach Scott Brooks was able to rest his starters in the fourth quarter as the Thunder improved to 2-2 with their highest-scoring game of the season. Brooks played 13 of the 14 players on his roster.

The Thunder shot 50 per cent from the floor in the first half to lead 57-38 at the break and finished the game shooting 47 per cent. Oklahoma City will play at Chicago on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thunder forward Kevin Durant scores a layup on Tuesday night in Oklahoma City. ALONZO ADAMS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grizzlies get youth infusion from owner

Grizzlies forward Zach Randolph, left, competes for a rebound with Jazz forward Paul Millsap on Monday in Memphis, Tenn. LANCE MURPHEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Mike Conley says the Grizzlies' new owner doesn't look much older than he is. The Memphis guard is right.

Robert J. Pera, the Grizzlies' new chairman and majority owner, is only nine years older than his point guard. The 34-year-old California businessman is a fresh face from a much different generation than the Grizzlies' previous owner — 75-year-old billionaire Michael Heisley.

"I like it," Pera said of being called an NBA owner. "It has a nice ring to it."

He became one of the youngest people ever to own a major professional sports team when he paid $377 million for the team.

Mark Cuban was 41 when he bought the Dallas Mavericks in 2000, and Eddie DeBartolo became the youngest NFL owner ever when he took over the San Francisco 49ers at 30, according to STATS LLC.

Pera, looking relaxed wearing a suit jacket with his black shirt unbuttoned at the top, chatted with the grey-haired Heisley in his suit and tie Monday night before the Grizzlies beat Utah 103-94.

Pera may be young, but NBA commissioner David Stern said Monday night the league's newest owner has the three things he looks for: Passion, deep pockets, and knowing how to delegate and hire management.

Stern called Pera a "basketball junkie."

Grizzlies forward Zach Randolph has heard Pera not only loves basketball but plays often and can even dunk.

"I'm going to challenge him one-on-one, three dribbles," Randolph said.

The Memphis big man better not be fooled by the new owner's youthful appearance; Pera's shrewd and doesn't appear to lose much.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Owner's resumé

Pera, who grew up in San Carlos, Calif., had his own computer-services company by the time he was 16.

- He has degrees in Japanese and electrical engineering.
- He started Ubiquiti Networks in March 2005 and went public in October 2011. The communications-technology company taps into Wi-Fi technology to extend Internet access into underserved and rural areas.

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Consult your Ford of Canada dealer for details including applicable warranty coverage. †† Offer only valid from November 1, 2012 to November 30, 2012 (the "Program Period") to Canadian resident customers who own or are currently leasing (during the Program Period) certain Ford Pickup Truck, Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV), Cross-Over Utility Vehicle (CUV) or Minivan models (each a "Qualifying Loyalty Model"), or certain competitive pickup truck, SUV, CUV or Minivan models (each a "Qualifying Conquest Model") and purchase, lease, or factory order (during the Program Period) a new 2012/2013 Ford truck (excluding Raptor), SUV or CUV (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Some eligibility restrictions apply on Qualifying Loyalty and Conquest Models and Eligible Vehicles – see dealer for full offer criteria. 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Estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2013 Escape FWD 1.6L GTDI I-4 6-Speed Automatic: 9.3L/100 km city and 6.0L/100 km hwy. Fuel consumption ratings based on Environment Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading, vehicle equipment and driving habits. ©2012 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under licence. ©2012 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

Get ready for the Ram 1500

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

There is a dash-mounted gear knob for eight-speed models.

Engine

Chrysler has finally decided to install its 3.6-litre V6 and eight-speed automatic transmission between the Ram's flanks, replacing the 3.7-litre V6. The result is a significant 90-horsepower gain (to 305) and a torque increase to 269 pound-feet from 235. The new powertrain makes a world of difference.

Ram 1500

- **Type.** Two/Four-door, rear/four-wheel drive.
- **Engines (hp);** 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (305), 4.7-litre SOHC V8 (310), 5.7-litre OHV V8 (395)
- **Transmission.** Eight speed auto., six speed auto. (4.7).
- **Base price (incl.destination).** $28,500

Design

Outwardly, the new Ram's forward-angled grille juts out as before, like an overbite, and fronts the same cab and box sizes. However, the nose is now 2.5 centimetres higher, the headlights are updated and the grille can be specified with fuel-saving shutters that automatically close at highway speeds.

Fuel economy

For fuel-saving measures, a thermal management system rapidly warms engine and transmission fluids, allowing them to function more efficiently, sooner, which also helps save gas. Then there's a stop-start system that shuts off the engine (while still maintaining necessary electric-powered systems) when stationary.

Review. Modifications say Ram is taking its future seriously

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

The changes were really a long-time coming.

The 2013 Ram 1500 arrives with enough new content engineered into its soul to gain plenty of traction with the tough pickup crowd. Whether it's enough to entice Ford and General Motors supporters to join the Ram flock remains to be seen, but as the nation's economic health remains relatively strong, so should the fortunes of all light and medium-duty truck brands.

Now operating as its own unit apart from Chrysler's Dodge division, the Ram brand — specifically the 1500 series — receives some critical mid-product-cycle adjustments that are significant on a number of fronts. Carrying over, and exclusive to the job-site Tradesmen model, is a 310-horsepower 4.7-litre V8 connected to a six-speed automatic transmission.

Rams fitted with the eight-speed come with a rotary shift dial on the lower left corner of the centre stack, replacing the previous column or console-mounted shifter. The interior also features an available touch-screen access for communications and audio devices as well as for Wi-Fi Internet access.

Further changes to the Ram involve adopting a stiffened frame that's also lighter by about 14 kilograms. Alone that's not much, but combined with a lighter base powertrain and front suspension and the combined savings reaches the 60-kilogram range.

The Ram also becomes the first in its class to offer key-fob-controlled air suspension on Quad and Crew models that features five ride height settings. In addition, the Ram makes giant strides in areas that matter most while actually improving power and towing capacity, things that make people want to buy trucks in the first place.

Apart from the interior being a feast for the eyes, the dash has no shift lever. That's the job of the large knob on the centre stack just to the right of the steering wheel.

Optional secure storage takes advantage of the box walls.

By comparison

1 Ford F-150
Base price: $21,700

2 Toyota Tundra
Base price: $27,800

3 Chevrolet Silverado
Base price: $28,250

Sales surge — Automakers expect their showrooms to be buzzing in 2013

Lincoln has come out with this stunning design for 2013. ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Car buyers want it all. Technology, being green and fuel efficiency top list of wants as big, small brands are reborn and prepare for battle

TODD. D BURLAGE
Wheelbasemedia.com

On-demand technology, increased fuel efficiency, horsepower, luxury . . . these are just a few line items finicky new car buyers are demanding as they head to showrooms this fall to shop and sample the invasion of 2013 models.

And the automakers are paying attention.

Improving health in the new-car market, coupled with an insatiable consumer appetite for both creature comforts and better fuel economy, will make this battle for 2013 sales dominance the fiercest manufacturers have faced since the U.S. economy crashed several years ago.

"This is an exciting time for both the industry and the consumer," said Matthew Keegan, editor and publisher of Auto Trends Magazine. "Car buyers made it clear what they want. We'll see who best delivers."

Shrinking engine sizes, a greater use of eight-speed transmissions, along with more power-boosting turbochargers and direct fuel injection systems highlight the notable improvements the 2013 models offer compared to the 2012s, at least under the hood.

"Engine technology is improving and these (initiatives) are all spreading across the entire industry," Keegan said. "Anything under the hood is now designed to make cars get better fuel efficiency without compromising power. These improvements have been going on about the last three years. But it's stepping up now with the (U.S.) federal government requiring higher fuel standards."

Rebirth is the keyword for 2013 as popular automakers are trying to become relevant in markets dominated in recent years by some of the top-selling models in the world.

The Cadillac ATS is taking direct aim at the BMW 3-series and the Infiniti G37 for compact-luxury-sedan supremacy.

The sporty Dodge Dart — built on an Alfa Romeo platform and the first joint effort from Chrysler and Fiat — is another roomy compact, trying to make an immediate splash in the 2013 market.

Other tried-and-true models such as the Nissan Altima, Honda Accord and Ford Fusion are all hoping to hold or help their place in the new-car market with complete redesigns.

And competition among hybrids and plug-in models will also be hotter than ever this season with a broader selection and a stronger commitment from car builders.

Sprinkle in another 30-plus all-new nameplates heading to showroom floors and the sales push becomes even greater for a consumer demographic armed with higher confidence and gentler credit terms to help guide their purchase decision.

All of these choices and competition comes at a time when the average age of a car on North American roads is 11 years, creating what automakers hope will be a bull market, loaded with buyers less reluctant to purchase big-ticket items in a rebounding automotive economy.

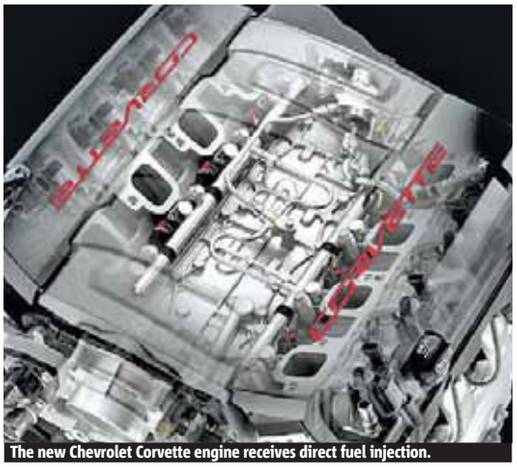
Forbes Magazine reports that automakers recently enjoyed their best August since before the 2007-'09 recession, selling 1.3 million cars and trucks for the month. And auto blog Real World Road Tests paints a rosy sales forecast well into the 2013 calendar year.

"The number of quality choices in vehicles today is truly staggering. If you were an auto enthusiast that had yourself cryogenically frozen in the 'bad old days' of the '70s and '80s and then woke up today, you'd think you're in automotive heaven."

With competition comes choice, and the 2013 lineup provides plenty of both, even within specific models.

The Ford Fusion offers three separate four-cylinder gas engine, as well as gas/electric hybrid and plug-in hybrid options. The Honda Accord will eventually come in a plug-in hybrid version, with four- and six-cylinder engine options also available.

The new Hyundai Santa Fe is very typical of the high standard interior layout of 2013 models.



The new Chevrolet Corvette engine receives direct fuel injection.

Power, performance and efficiency are important factors for new car buyers every year. But increasing demands for safety and in-car technology will also help drive new-car sales this season.

Most of the 2013 models offer improved safety through some combination of blind spot detection, rear-view cameras, lane-departure warnings and forward collision braking assistance, in the event of driver inattention or distraction.

Of course, in-car technology continues to become the battleground of the new car market, and the automakers are going to great lengths to try to outdo the competition.

Voice activated navigation systems, mobile hotspot Internet access, hands-free cellular calling, as well as automatic 911 emergency roadside assistance are all part of the technology lineup featured in the 2013 models.

"Technology is the next frontier for manufacturers," Keegan said. "Improvements are being made in this area every year but there is still a lot to learn. This battle is just beginning."

One thing is certain; this isn't your father's automotive market. Design demands from choosy consumers stretch from bumper to bumper, including in-cabin designs.

Fuel efficiency is obviously important, but style also helps to define the 2013 model year, especially within the $20,000 to $30,000 lineup of cars.

From carbon-fibre veneers and noise insulation, to cup holders and power outlets, manufacturers are spending a lot of time, money, research and development on cockpit comfort, convenience and luxury.

The 2013 models highlight just how important design detail has become with big-time luxury showing up in even the smallest of automobile packages, such as the sporty interiors featured in some Hyundai and Kia lines.

Quoted

"Improvements are being made in this area every year but there is still a lot to learn."

Matthew Keegan,editor of Auto Trend magazine.
On the importance of technology to new cars hitting the market in 2013.

"Car buyers expect it all," Keegan said. "Today's cars are better equipped, more fuel efficient and stylish."

"More" generally costs more and if buyers have been out of the loop for a while, they might get a shock. Still, the selection in the under-$25,000 range is enormous with some brands slashing prices. Volkswagen, for example dramatically cut the prices of the Jetta and Passat. The result? Not surprisingly, more vehicle sales

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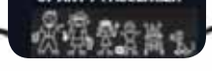

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Let this distinctive beauty take you to Infiniti and beyond ...

Second Gear.
2003 to 2008 Infiniti FX

The Infiniti FX was easy to spot on the road, thanks to its distinctive sound, stand-out looks and athletic stance. One commercial called the FX a "sport sedan with a backpack." A sporty premium crossover model from Nissan's premium division, the first-generation of this machine hit the market for 2003 and became a popular contender in its segment. Feature content was the norm for the segment—and used shoppers can look for 20-inch wheels, memory seating, navigation, Bluetooth, premium Bose audio, rain-sensing wipers and plenty more.

PHOTO: WHEELBASE MEDIA

Common issues

Some owners have reported electrical grounding issues as the FX ages. These can cause problems ranging from cooked ignition coil packs (which will result in a misfire) to damaged Engine Control Units (ECU)'s.
Be sure the FX you're considering isn't exhibiting any signs of bad electrical grounds, and check that all electronics work properly, and that the engine and transmission work smoothly. An Infiniti mechanic can give the sensor network and electrical system in the FX you're considering a check, just to be safe. Check the seats for signs of excessive wear, inspecting the leather where it's stitched together.

Inspect the dashboard for signs of cracking as well. Ensure proper operation of all motorized seat functions, as well as the fuel gauge

Engine

Look for six or eight-cylinder engines with about 280 or 320 horsepower, respectively. Automatic transmissions and all-wheel drive were fitted to all models and both engines drink premium gas.

What owners like

Head-turning style, originality, impressive features, a refined driveline and overall performance and handling are all highly rated by FX owners. The confidence delivered by its AWD system in winter driving is also appreciated.

What owners dislike

Common complaints include expensive fuel bills, expensive winter tires, limited at-hand storage on board and limited trunk space.

Verdict

The V6-powered FX35 should be the least-expensive to fuel and insure. A clean bill of health from an Infiniti mechanic on the electrical system should precede ownership of a reliable crossover celebrated for its uniqueness and performance.

Tips on the importance of not being idle

Idling your vehicle affects the environment and your wallet. Here are a few facts you should know.

Cold starts vs. idling
You may believe that you're doing the best for your vehicle by allowing it to "warm up" in the cold weather with a few minutes of idling. In fact, more than just the engine needs to be warmed up and this can only happen if the vehicle is moving. For an average vehicle, it takes about five kilometres of driving to warm up the engine as well as the wheel bearings, steering, suspension, transmission and tires.

Shutting the engine down
One of the false arguments made to justify idling is that it costs money to shut the engine down. That is a complete misnomer. Ten seconds of idling consumes the same amount of fuel as starting the engine after shutting it down. As for the wear and tear factor on the battery and starter, it adds up to about $10 per year, compared to saving an average of 66-litres of gasoline a year by simply reducing idle time from five minutes to 30 seconds.

Idling and engine wear
Prolonged idling is also one of the worst things the owner can do to an engine. Aside from being a complete waste of fuel (you are traveling zero kilometres for the fuel consumed), excessive idling can contaminate the engine oil, which will lead to premature, and very costly, engine wear down the road.

Keeping the tank topped-up
The practice of idling with a low fuel level not only stirs up any dirt in the tank, but it also promotes the build-up of condensation in the tank, especially in colder temperatures. Keeping the tank topped up minimizes both risks. "With 20% more cleaning agents than before, Shell Nitrogen Enriched Gasolines protect intake valves and fuel injectors from performance-robbing gunk while you drive. NEWS CANADA

Remember the saying "the devil finds work for idle hands," while leaving your vehicle idle doesn't do it any good either. NEWS CANADA

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2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown.§

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Dodge.ca/Offers

CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

Wise customers read the fine print: •, *, ‡, ∞, § The Holiday Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers on or after November 1, 2012. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating dealers for complete details and conditions. •$19,998 Purchase Price applies to 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (29E+CL9) only and includes $8,100 Consumer Cash Discount. $19,998 Purchase Price applies to 2013 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (22F+CLE) only and includes $2,000 Consumer Cash Discount. Pricing includes freight ($1,500-$1,595) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. See participating dealers for complete details. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on select new 2013 vehicles and are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your dealer for complete details. ‡4.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package/2013 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package models to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank, TD Auto Finance and Ally Credit Canada. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. See your dealer for complete details. Examples: 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package/2013 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package with a Purchase Price of $19,998/$19,998 (including applicable Consumer Cash Discounts) financed at 4.49% over 96 months with $0 down payment equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $115/$115 with a cost of borrowing of $3,823/$3,823 and a total obligation of $23,821/$23,821. Pricing includes freight ($1,500-$1,595) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable fees and taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. ∞2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $27,595. Pricing includes freight ($1,500-$1,595) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable fees and taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. §2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $27,595. Pricing includes freight ($1,500-$1,595) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable fees and taxes. ^Based on 2013 *Ward's* Middle Cross Utility segmentation. °Based on 2013 EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide ratings published by Natural Resources Canada. Transport Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan – Hwy: 7.9 L/100 km (36 MPG) and City: 12.2 L/100 km (23 MPG). 2013 Dodge Journey SE 2.4 L 4-speed automatic – Hwy: 7.5 L/100 km (38 MPG) and City: 10.8 L/100 km (26 MPG). ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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FOR MORE GREAT OFFERS

Take charge! The future's electric

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Car owners have a love-hate thing going on with gas stations. We don't like giving them money, but when we need them, we need them bad. When we need them bad, only they can satisfy our feverish desire for lovely amber transportation fluid, tasty snacks, and semi-clean washrooms.

The age of public charging stations is upon us. With the continuing electrification of the automobile, gas stations are no longer the only "refueling" game in town. EVs (full electric vehicles) and PHEVs (plug in hybrids) can snub their aerodynamic noses at gas stations.

EVs and PHEVs mostly get charged at home, during the night. But electric car stakeholders are working toward a world where public charging stations will augment at-home charging, to facilitate more electric car adoption, and to expand their respective daily ranges.

Chris Hill is president of Electric Mobility Canada, an association that includes virtually all those stakeholders — EV and PHEV manufacturers, provincial power utilities, battery and charging station companies, etc. Hill says there are currently about 200 public charging stations in Canada, most of which are located in Quebec.

Quebec and B.C. are leading the charge (pun not initially intended). "The Electric Circuit" is an initiative of the Hydro Quebec and is billed as the country's first public charging network. The 150 proposed stations would be located on the premises of partners, such as St-Hubert (the chicken chain), the cities of Montreal and Quebec, Rona, Metro (the grocery chain), Discount Car and Truck Rentals and AMT, which runs the province's commuter train services. Would-be chargers just buy the special $25 user card from Hydro Quebec, good for 10 charges, and away they go…

AddEnergie, a Quebec-based charging station builder, will further boost the province's public charging infrastructure, with a proposed 80-station network. But Quebec will eventually be eclipsed by B.C. Through the province's Clean Vehicle Initiative and Vancouver's goal to be the greenest city in the world by 2020, there will be lots of public stations going up soon in the province. Hill expects about 700 to be built there next year.

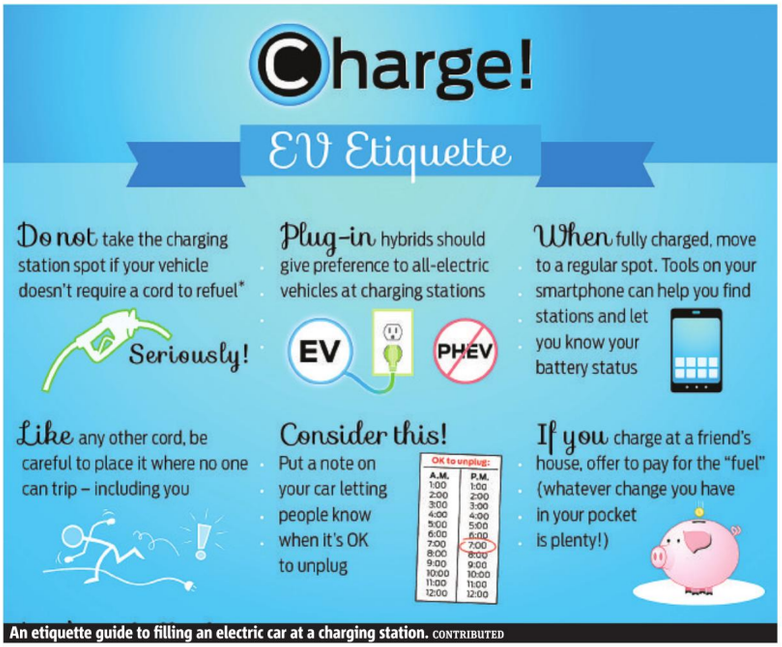
Public charging stations are a province-by-province thing, because electricity is a provincially regulated function. Hill adds that currently only provincially-regulated entities can "resell" electricity — hence their need to work with partners and vice-versa.

When corporate and municipal partners get involved, it's more often about promoting a green image and/or delivering a desirable customer service, because they're not the ones making the electricity or billing you for it.

A case in the point is the lone public charging station currently in Toronto. It's located close to City Hall in a visible spot in the Sheraton Centre, and the hotel doesn't charge you for the juice.

Where all the public charging stations should go is still up for discussion. Not up for discussion is the fact that they are definitely coming to Canada — maybe not as fast as they are populating in the U.S. (where they already have 4,000 and counting), but they're definitely coming. And developing along with them will be a totally new refueling culture, and one not based on the petroleum model.

Ford of Canada is already on the case. They published an info-graphic recently on EV charging etiquette. They want to make sure courtesy and common sense gets a fair shake at the public charging station, and we're all for that.


Charge!
EV Etiquette
Do not take the charging station spot if your vehicle doesn't require a cord to refuel*
Seriously!
Plug-in hybrids should give preference to all-electric vehicles at charging stations
EV
PHEV
When fully charged, move to a regular spot. Tools on your smartphone can help you find stations and let you know your battery status
Like any other cord, be careful to place it where no one can trip – including you
Consider this!
Put a note on your car letting people know when it's OK to unplug
OK to unplug:
A.M. P.M.
1:00 1:00
2:00 2:00
3:00 3:00
4:00 4:00
5:00 5:00
6:00 6:00
7:00 7:00
8:00 8:00
9:00 9:00
10:00 10:00
11:00 11:00
12:00 12:00
If you charge at a friend's house, offer to pay for the "fuel" (whatever change you have in your pocket is plenty!)

An etiquette guide to filling an electric car at a charging station. CONTRIBUTED

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You may want to give up on something that does not seem to be working out, but don't be too hasty. A few days from now, you will get an idea as to how you can further develop it. Stick with it.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Something seems to be holding you back from fully expressing yourself. Whatever that something is, you need to identify it and deal with it because your voice is going to be needed towards the end of the week.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
The more others try to tell you there is nothing to worry about, the more the alarm bells in your head start to ring. Are you being overly dramatic? No you are not. Be on your guard over the next 24 hours.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You may find this hard to believe but what happens today will sweep away your fears and before you know it, the world will be a brighter, happier place — for you at least. This is still very much your time of year.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
By all means, listen to what other people try to tell you today. But when it comes to acting on what they say, you must be cautious. There is a small but worrying possibility that you are being lied to.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
There is no point giving into feelings of self-pity because they won't get you anywhere. A positive mental attitude is a must today, and for the rest of the week. You won't get much done without it.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
It may now be apparent that someone who acts like a friend is in fact plotting against you but there is no need to get excited about it. What have they so far achieved? Nothing. And that's how it will stay.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It is too late to change the outcome of a certain situation, and the sooner you realize that, the better. Don't waste time and energy trying to reverse what has already happened. Unless you own a time machine, it won't work.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may be able to see where a friend or family member is going wrong but it's unlikely they will be happy if you point it out to them. Do so anyway, so your conscience is clear. After that, it's up to them.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may have to make some kind of sacrifice today but if you do so willingly, it is guaranteed that you will gain in other ways before the end of the week. Don't forget: A good heart is also good business.

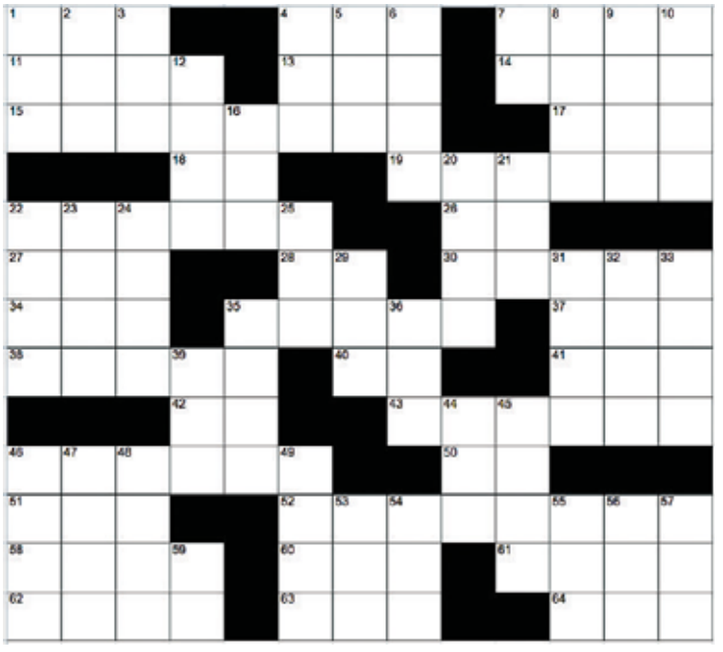
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
It may seem as if nothing is going right but don't let it get to you. Take each moment as it comes and focus on one task at a time. You'll get at least one good thing done by the end of the day.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You would no doubt admit that you have gone along with other people's suggestions a bit too much in recent weeks. Now you must resolve only to do what feels right to you. It's your life after all.

SALLY BROMPTON

Canadian Crossword

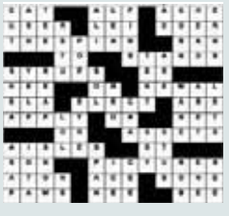
BY BETTY MARTIN



Across
1. Children's character: Sponge —
4. — Humbug!
7. Apex
11. Soon
13. Lager
14. Movie starring a pet pig
15. Theme park transport
17. New home construction site
18. Regarding (abbr.)
19. Locales
22. Spread
26. South American Sloth
27. Everything
28. Concerning (abbr.)
30. Idleness
34. Winter malady
35. Battlestar Galactica actor: Edward James —
37. Old time actress West
38. Florida city
40. "— Mice and Men"
41. Parseghian of Notre Dame
42. Exclamation of surprise
43. Bouquet
46. Rank
50. Sheriff on The Waltons
51. Paving material
52. Peak
58. Aglow
60. — You Afraid of the Dark?
61. Healthy soil
62. Fall colours
63. Turner or Danson
64. Speck

Down
1. Emeril's favourite expression
2. Yoko —
3. Rocker Jon — Jovi
4. Barnyard sound
5. "Love Story" actress MacGraw
6. Aid
7. Blood type
8. Baby powder
9. Woodwind instrument
10. Family dogs and cats
12. Author Roberts
16. Phonebook look-up
20. Scottish girl
21. Feel poorly
22. River transport
23. Jazz singer Fitzgerald
24. Type of pudding
25. — we meet again
29. Funnyman Philips
31. Sharif or Epps
32. Scarlett O'Hara plantation
33. Mend
35. Hawaiian Island
36. Light switch position
39. Found on Anna Olson's Sugar
44. Dancing with the Stars judge Goodman
45. October birthstone
46. Sun
47. Faerie — Theatre
48. Extremely dry
49. Tiff
53. Anger
54. Actor Beatty
55. Parcel delivery request
56. Legal Aid Ontario (abbr.)
57. Ambulance administrator
59. Author – Eliot

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

	3		6	9	1		5	
6								8
		9				6		
9	2		5		8		6	1
				3				
3	8		7		9		2	5
		5				2		
8								4
	4		8	1	6		7	

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	7	4	1	5	6	3	9	2
1	5	3	9	2	7	8	4	6
2	9	6	8	3	4	5	1	7
5	1	7	2	6	9	4	3	8
3	6	9	4	8	1	7	2	5
4	8	2	5	7	3	1	6	9
6	2	8	3	4	5	9	7	1
7	3	1	6	9	8	2	5	4
9	4	5	7	1	2	6	8	3

Today
10°/4°
Variable
Thursday
9°/2°
Mainly sunny
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend
©The Weather Network 2012

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FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$15,694**♦

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ELANTRA L 6-SPEED MANUAL.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

SE with Tech. shown

2013 ELANTRA GT
2013 AJAC BEST NEW SMALL CAR (OVER $21K)

$0 DOWN PAYMENT

$116 BI-WEEKLY AT 2.95% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS

HWY: 5.3L/100 KM
CITY: 7.8L/100 KM

FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$18,969**♦

OFFER INCLUDES **$1,675** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡.
ELANTRA GT GL 6-SPEED MANUAL.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

Limited model shown

2013 SONATA

GET UP TO

$3,250 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡ WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 24 MONTHS

HWY: 5.6L/100 KM
CITY: 8.7L/100 KM

FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$22,314**♦

OFFER INCLUDES **$3,250** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡.
SONATA GL AUTO.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

Limited model shown

2013 SANTA FE
2013 AJAC BEST NEW SUV (OVER $35K)

$0 DOWN PAYMENT

$165 BI-WEEKLY AT 2.95% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS

HWY: 6.7L/100 KM
CITY: 10.1L/100 KM

FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$27,109**♦

OFFER INCLUDES **$1,150** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡.
SANTA FE 2.4L FWD AUTO.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

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13171 Smallwood Place
Richmond, 604-606-9033
D#28516

Maple Ridge Hyundai
23213 Lougheed Highway
Maple Ridge, 604-467-3401
D#7356

Jim Pattison Hyundai Port Coquitlam
Unit B - 2385 Ottawa St.
Port Coquitlam, 604-552-1700
D#30242

Abbotsford Hyundai
30250 Automall Dr.
Abbotsford, 604-857-2622
D#9390

Langley Hyundai
19459 Langley Bypass
Surrey, 604-539-8549
D#30331

Mertin Hyundai
45753 Yale Rd.
Chilliwack, 604-702-1000
D#30337

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North Surrey, 604-582-8118
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